

THE BONUS BOYS ARE BACK

High life of a City high-roller

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BEST FOR BOOKS

Why sex is fun
Plus
Roger Bannister
on the brain

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work the
American way

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BEST for JOBS

TWO SPECIAL SECTIONS

Graduates 25K
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32 PAGES OF APPOINTMENTS

Blair attacks hunting on eve of rally

By PHILIP WEBSTER
AND MICHAEL HORNSEY

TONY BLAIR yesterday put himself on collision course with supporters of fox-hunting by declaring that he would vote for the ban proposed in a Labour backbencher's Bill when it comes before the Commons in the autumn.

Asked about his attitude to Mike Foster's measure, against which up to 100,000 rural workers and hunt supporters will protest in Hyde Park, London, today, the Prime Minister said that he had voted against hunting in the past and would do so again. He believed it could be done without the "massive destruction of the countryside" that

people were claiming. His remarks ensured that the future of fox-hunting would be a central political difference between the party leaderships in the coming year.

William Hague, the Tory leader, will attend today's rally and tell visitors from his Yorkshire constituency that he will vote against the Foster Bill because it would damage the rural economy and harm freedom. "Britain has a history of tolerance," he will say. "The country does not like it when a majority gangs up on a minority."

Protesters will claim that thousands of rural jobs are at risk from the ban. But in a two-page advertisement in *The Times* today the International Fund for Animal Wel-

fare, citing a Mori poll, claims that seven out of ten people want hunting with hounds to be abolished.

Extra police have been drafted into central London to control possible clashes between supporters and opponents of hunting. Commuters were told to expect severe traffic congestion, particularly during the morning and evening rush hours. Police expect up to 100,000 people at the rally.

Mr Blair said in the Commons that Labour valued what happened in the countryside and he rejected as "absolute nonsense" some of the allegations that had been made, including claims that Labour intended to ban shooting and fishing.

Mr Blair's remarks confirmed that Mr Foster's Bill, which the Labour whips were reluctant to bring forward this year, will be the subject of a party political dogfight after it is introduced in the autumn, even though both sides are allowing MPs free votes.

But Mr Blair's support cannot be taken as a guarantee that the Bill will become law. The Labour leadership has yet to make a decision over whether effectively to take over the Bill and grant it parliamentary time when it hits trouble.

A number of senior ministers, including Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, and Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, are under-

stood to be opposed to a ban. But the size of the Labour majority makes it likely that hunting will be outlawed at some time during the present Parliament.

Today's protest follows month-long marches that began throughout the country. The protesters were last night gathering at Potters Bar in Hertfordshire and will travel by bus to central London today.

Michael Heseltine, the former Deputy Prime Minister, is to speak at the rally and other speakers include Frederick Forsyth, the writer, Simon Bates, the broadcaster, and Paula Hamilton, the model.

The League Against Cruel Sports said it had instructed its followers to stay away from the rally. John

Bryant, its chief spokesman, said: "The last thing we want is a punch-up".

At a press conference on the eve of the rally, the National Trust, one of Britain's biggest landowners, said it would continue to allow the hunting of fox, hare and mink on its holdings in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

But Charles Nunneley, the chairman of trust, which has 2.2 million members, said its position on hunting was "agnostic" and it could not therefore officially support a rally organised for the specific purpose of promoting field sports.

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Photograph page 26



"It's British Airways — do we fancy hunting down any cabin crews?"

BA cabin staff report sick rather than join strikers

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, PHILIP BASSETT,
KATHRYN KNIGHT AND DANIEL MCGRODY

MORE than 1,500 British Airways cabin staff reported sick yesterday as colleagues staged a 72-hour strike that forced the cancellation of dozens of flights and brought chaos to Heathrow.

Both the airline and the Transport and General Workers' Union were claiming victory in the dispute last night.

Airline managers were privately celebrating as only 142 cabin crew formally joined the strike. They regarded the swollen sick roll — more than ten times the usual size — as a sign that staff were against the action, while 834 people reported for work as usual.

Two thousand are needed to operate a full service, but the apparent reluctance of many workers to join the strike surprised managers who were working late last night to reschedule flights for today. "We will certainly be able to operate 20 per cent more flights on Thursday," a spokesman said.

But union leaders described the airline's conclusion as nonsense. Eddie McDermott, the regional organiser, said: "You can see how many are on our picket line, half their flights were cancelled, thousands more passengers switched to other airlines, so how is that a success for BA?"

And Bill Morris, general secretary of the TGWU, told

his biennial conference in Brighton: "Despite all the threats, I can report that the dispute is solid."

Mr Morris said that the union was up against a management "that had come straight out of the industrial relations museum of the 1970s", adding: "If you want to find militancy, look no further than the British Airways boardroom."

Strikers were told on Tuesday that they would forfeit their travel perks and promotion prospects for three years, and yesterday the airline said that it was considering suing the union on the ground that the strike was illegal. It claimed that up to a thousand people who took part in the strike had lost no longer worked for BA or were not members of the TGWU subsidiary British Airline Stewards and Stewardesses Association (Bassa).

The union, however, said that it would defend itself vigorously and renewed its criticism of what it regards as BA's intimidatory tactics. Mr Morris said: "BA have tried intimidation. They are now trying litigation. We believe they should try negotiation."

Robert Ayling, the BA chief executive, today recognised the anger the company's approach has provoked and writes in *The Times*: "If we have appeared heavy-handed



Picket chic: some of the 142 BA cabin staff who stopped work rather than report sick demonstrate support on the first day of their three-day strike at Heathrow yesterday

or clumsy, I apologise. Let's clear that misunderstanding from this dispute." But he insists that while he is ready to reach agreement with his employees and their unions, he will make no deal that threatens the company's future competitiveness.

Such an apology is almost unprecedented from the head of a company involved in a high-profile dispute and the union is likely to use it as a lever to press for fresh negotiations.

In the meantime, TGWU leaders are unlikely to decide until Saturday whether to call a further strike — and legal requirements mean that if they do, it will not coincide with BA's annual meeting next week. BA officials were meanwhile confident that future actions will be abandoned.

Yesterday, BA cancelled 135 of its normal 196 daily departures from Heathrow and nine of the 93 due to leave from Gatwick. Today it expects to run more flights, including

those from Heathrow to Edinburgh, Glasgow and Delhi. A spokesman said: "Because more people have turned up for work, we have more crews on standby than normal. Tomorrow we hope to run 20 per cent more flights than we did today. We will be able to run some domestic short-hauls tomorrow which we were not able to run today."

But fellow managers admitted that the scene inside the main terminal buildings at

Heathrow yesterday were "organised chaos". One said: "It's not as bad as we expected, but the longer it drags on, the more tempers will fray."

Announcements on which flights would operate were made barely an hour before take-off as managers had to check which cabin crew had turned up. The seven sets of

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Roman find

The most complete set of Roman medical instruments found in Britain has been unearthed at a site in Essex. Page 9

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Boxing bites back and bans Tyson from ring

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

MIKE TYSON's boxing career may have ended yesterday after the Nevada State Athletic Commission revoked his boxing licence as punishment for biting Evander Holyfield's ears during their recent heavyweight title fight in Las Vegas.

Brushing aside appeals from Tyson's lawyers, the commissioners voted unanimously for the maximum penalty.

As well as being stripped of his licence, Tyson will lose 10 per cent of his title bout purse of nearly \$30 million (£17.5 million). He was also ordered to pay costs.

The ruling does not automatically mean a ban for life. Technically, Tyson can reapply every 12 months, however many times he may be rejected. But time is against him — he is now 31.

and with each year out of the ring his force in world boxing will diminish.

"The commission has absolute discretion in this matter," Donald Hight, the Nevada Chief Deputy Attorney General, pointed out, "that the commission need not adduce

any new evidence of wrongdoing on the part of Tyson in order to reject an application. The original sin — the biting of Holyfield's ears — can serve in perpetuity as a reason to refuse him a licence."

Mr Hight said: "Unless the commission changes its mind, this would be a permanent revocation. Without further action, the licence would not be restored."

Since other American states are required by law to honour Nevada's decision, Tyson could not fight elsewhere in

the country. He is unlikely to be able to fight abroad as he is still on probation for a rape conviction in 1991. The parole board officials, who decide whether Tyson can leave the country, are unlikely to do anything which would undermine the commission's sentence.

Earlier, Jim Thomas, the lawyer for Holyfield, conveyed a brief message from his client to the commission. In his words, Holyfield had "no interest in punishing Tyson" and had "forgiven him". The champion professed the hope that Tyson would "get the help ... to find the inner peace he needs". Holyfield wished it to be known through his lawyer that the hearing was about "more than one man, about more than Mike Tyson". The hearing was, he stressed, about "boxing as a whole, and the future of boxing as an honourable sport".

Tyson did not attend yesterday's hearings, although his lawyers wished it to be known that he had thrown himself at the mercy of the commission.

Indefinite ban, page 52

New chief for Tote after year's search

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

PETER JONES will today be named as the successor to Lord Wyatt of Weeford as chairman of the Tote, ending a year-long search.

Mr Jones, 54, is ideally qualified for the £75,000-a-year job. A former president of the Racehorse Owners' Association, he was a founding director of the British Horseracing Board, and is already a Tote director.

Although he has a successful career in advertising, he found time to take out a bookmaker's licence. He had set his heart on rejuvenating the fortunes of the Tote but the post has twice looked set to elude him.

He emerged as the favourite for the job after the previous Government announced 12 months ago that Lord Wyatt would step down in April. But Michael Howard, the former Home Secretary, wanted to appoint Major-General Guy Watkins, formerly chief executive of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club. His choice was, however, vetoed by Jack Straw, his successor at the Home Office.

A fortnight ago, Mr Straw was poised to appoint Mau-

rice Lindsay, chief executive of the Rugby Football League, but changed his mind, and Lord Wyatt's tenure was extended.

However, the path is now clear for Mr Jones. He has made little secret of his belief that the Tote can be transformed from a slumbering giant into a more competitive and profitable operation.

The Tote he inherits is perceived by many within the sport not to have fulfilled its potential. In 1991, a Commons select committee acknowledged that it had not been entirely clear about its business objectives, and recognised the concerns about its financial performance.

Nonetheless, the Tote's profits in recent years have grown, and its contribution to racing is expected to be close to £10 million for 1996-97. However, it owns only 210 of the estimated 8,500 betting shops in Britain, and Mr Jones will have to decide whether to extend its off-course presence or concentrate on increasing turnover and profits elsewhere.

Fallon's four-timer, page 44

HELP US STOP THIS NOW

Day after day, this bear is dragged into a bloody arena to face pairs of cross-bred bull terriers. His teeth have been ripped out and his claws blunted, so he is at the mercy of the dogs' vicious teeth. The trainer won't let him be killed, but the bear doesn't know this. Over and over again, he is fighting for his life.

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Globetrotting PM endures nightmare with his eyes wide open

When Phineas Fogg went around the world in 80 days he returned to a Pall Mall club, a noggin, a warm reception, a reward and bed. When our Prime Minister goes round the world in 48 days, he returns to no rest, half an hour of being jeered and poked at during PM's Questions, a complicated statement about Nato, a hail of nitpicking questions... and more work.

Tony Blair staggered into the Chamber yesterday within hours of a mad dash to Madrid for a Nato summit. This was a jaunt compared with recent trips to Hong Kong, Denver, New York, Paris (twice), Malmö, Bonn, Amsterdam and Noordwijk. Since forming a government he has clocked up 26,800 miles on these insane trips, attended four summits, conferences galore, and dispatched one colony. "Tony," a pal told *The Sun*, "is determined not to lose touch with the outside world."

A more pressing danger is of losing touch with his own government. At Questions yesterday Mr Blair was ill-briefed and unconvincing. He looked exhausted. Officials may compliment him on spreading his authority so wide, fast and thin — but officials never think the Commons matters.

There are signs that Labour Party managers do not think the Commons matters. Yet for a government which has so far hardly let its authority slip, a ragged afternoon represents a loss of virginity. One bad performance spreads ripples in a parliamentary pond his Chief Whip needs to keep unruffled before the summer.

It also encouraged William Hague mightily. The new Tory leader had learnt something from the ferrets he had been pictured tickling in the newspapers: he sunk his teeth into a small but unguarded patch of prime ministerial flesh — and hung on fiercely. He wanted to know if the Government would compensate local authority pension funds for their losses occasioned by the Budget.

Mr Blair did not wish to talk about this. He tried ignoring the question, and lecturing MPs on the benefits of his Budget and the wickedness of the last Government. The balding ferret hung on. The PM tried attacking Tony "check" in asking the question in the first place. He attacked the wickedness of the last Government.

But the ferret hung on. The PM tried rejoicing that his Budget had started a stock market boom, thus solving the pension funds' problems. He tried a sermonette on "prudence" in economics, and another on the wickedness of Tories. But the ferret hung on.

Exasperated, Blair said the Tories' record was so bad he did not see why he should listen to their advice. The ferret let go before Miss Boothroyd pulled him off. Poor Mr Blair was then attacked by John Hume (SDLP, Foyle) for not banning marches in Ulster.

It is wonderful to observe an encounter between these two. Both choose piety as their weapon, but in Hume, Blair has met his match. John Hume is even more sanctimonious than the Prime Minister. He sighed, whispered and raised his eyes.

Blair to increase Labour life peers

By Philip Webster
POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR is poised to appoint more than 30 new Labour life peers to bolster his party's representation in the Tory-dominated Lords.

A new list of Labour peers will be published later this month, probably alongside John Major's resignation honours list which will also contain new Tory life peers.

Nothing approaching balance will be achieved, however, until Mr Blair goes ahead with his pledge to strip the hereditary peers of their voting rights with a Bill likely to figure in the next session of Parliament beginning in the autumn of next year.

In the meantime Labour clearly intends to use any defeat in the Lords as ammunition for its plan. The Lords last week voted by 101 to 94 to back a Tory call for the two separate devolution polls to be held on the same day rather than a week apart, as the Government proposed. Of the 101 votes against the Government, 59 were hereditary peers, 52 of them sitting as Conservatives. Labour sources disclosed.

Mr Blair, questioned about it in the Commons yesterday, condemned as a "constitutional wrong" the role of the hereditary peers. "If we are looking for constitutional wrongs, what could be more wrong than the Conservative Party depending on hereditary peers to do their business that they can't get through because they lost the election?" he said.

Extra troops sent to combat march backlash by IRA

Nicholas Watt reports on fears of rising Ulster violence

FOUR hundred extra troops are to be flown to Northern Ireland to counter the upsurge in IRA terrorism since a Roman Catholic road was forced to accept the Drumcree Orange parade on Sunday.

The soldiers from the 1st Battalion the Staffordshire Regiment, Britain's standby battalion, will arrive at the weekend amid fears of renewed sectarian violence as the marching season reaches its climax.

The RUC, which requested the troops, said that they would be deployed to counter the renewed threat from the IRA. Troops already in Northern Ireland have been stretched by the IRA campaign unleashed across Northern Ireland within hours of Sunday's contentious parade.

Up to 600 extra troops were sent to the security forces and 1,500 petrol-bombing incidents, injuring 60 RUC officers and 56 civilians. Police and the Army fired 2,500 plastic bullets to disperse rioters.

The violence abated yesterday but the IRA is expected to step up its campaign on Saturday when tens of thousands of Orangemen hold their annual July 12 parades across the Province. The greatest threats will arise at two parades along the Catholic Lower Ormeau Road in Belfast and in Londonderry. Nationalists are determined to block the parades, which means that the RUC will have to decide whether to ban the parades, restrict the routes or let them go ahead as planned.

Lower Ormeau Road, which has become Ulster's second most serious flashpoint after the Drumcree parade, presents the RUC with a dilemma. If police allow the Orangemen to march, the IRA will repeat this week's violence: if the RUC blocks the parade, tens of thousands of Orangemen arriving in Belfast for the main parades will try to converge on the Ormeau area.

One security source said last night that the only hope was for the two sides to show some flexibility. He said: "If everyone sticks to their 'rights', then we are all going to be wrong."

The 400 extra soldiers will bring troops levels in Northern Ireland to 17,500, the highest number since last July when two extra battalions were flown in during the marching season.

As the extra troops prepared to leave their base in the West Midlands, Tony Blair defended the Government's handling of the Drumcree parade and paid tribute to the courage of Mu Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary. Speaking at Prime Minister's Question Time, Mr Blair criticised the

intransigence of both nationalists and loyalists. He added: "The situation in Northern Ireland over the past few days has been appalling and it is tragic for all the people in Northern Ireland... We have been trying... to do the best in good faith in a situation in which all the options available are difficult and hard."

Mr Blair faced tough questions from the nationalist SDLP, whose three MPs were infuriated by the Drumcree decision. Seamus Mallon, the party's deputy leader and MP for Newry and Armagh, said that the implication of the weekend was that decisions over marches were made "on the threat of greater paramilitary force and on the threat of greater destruction".

Mr Blair later held talks with John Hume, the SDLP leader, and Mr Mallon. Mr Hume requested the meeting after an acrimonious meeting with Dr Mowlam on Tuesday.

Andrew Hunter, former chairman of the Tory Northern Ireland backbench committee, welcomed the decision to send more troops. The MP for Basingstoke said: "It is a tragedy, but given the evidence in Northern Ireland it is quite right for the Government to respond in this way. It is a great reflection of the needs on the ground."

BA staff go sick rather than strike

Continued from page 1

BA check-in desks that dominate the departure lounge of Terminal One were all manned, but devoid of passengers — who chose instead to form a long, perspiring queue snaking towards the information desk.

Outside, the stewardesses who might normally have been serving their meals were forming what union leaders described as "the best-looking picket line in industrial relations history". One picket said: "I may lose my job, I may get fined but British Airways are not going to force us strikers to look anything but our best."

But the chic outfits and immaculate make-up belied their determination to fight a deal which they say means they must work longer hours for less pay. Jean Smithson, 47, said: "I am an articulate middle-class mother-of-two and I don't want to spend my time standing on a street corner, but what choice do I have? BA say their deal means my basic salary goes up by £2,000 to £26,000 but what they don't say is that I will lose over £4,000 a year in allowances."

BRITISH AIRWAYS



Two stranded passengers waiting at Heathrow

Ministers and industry fear that strike habit will spread

By Philip Bassett
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE British Airways strike will lead government ministers and employers to ask: where next? Will there now be industrial action elsewhere?

Employers are concerned that the return of a Labour Government may be followed by an increase in strikes — even though this Labour Government is less union-influenced than any in history.

Trends in the labour market will have an impact. As unemployment falls, and the number of jobs rises, employees are more prepared to make a push on issues such as pay.

Equally, with inflation set to rise, pay pressures will mount.

Local government has often been a trouble-spot, but unions have just concluded a deal for council workers which includes a £4 minimum wage. The private sector pacemaker Rover has also reached a pay agreement.

But areas of trouble ahead might include:

□ Post Office services were hit by strikes last year. Working parties set up to resolve the issue of teamworking are proceeding slowly.

□ Rail and Tube unions have been mounting sporadic industrial action in the privatised rail companies and

this is likely to continue.

□ Health service: NHS unions would like a restructuring of health service pay, but do not forecast trouble.

□ Fire services: Local fire services have seen area strikes over the past year or so, of which the dispute in Essex was the most recent.

Firefighters will protect their earnings-linked pay formula.

□ Banks: Job-cutting by the banks in the face of widespread use of computer technology is increasing unrest. But unionisation levels in banks are low.

□ Utilities: "fat-cat" pay rises in utilities are stoking up employee dissatisfaction.

NEWS IN BRIEF

First official red-light zone allowed

Britain's first officially recognised red-light district is to be established in Sheffield later this year. Prostitutes will be allowed to operate within a designated area close to the city centre without fear of harassment by police.

The exact location will be chosen by the city council after consultations with police, residents and business owners. The decision follows complaints from people living in inner city areas about prostitutes plying their trade outside their homes.

Four die in fire

Four members of a family, including a five-year-old girl, died in a fire at their house in Lambeg on the outskirts of south Belfast. Those killed were Jean and Maurice McKinsty, in their fifties, their daughter, Debbie, 22, due to marry this Saturday, and her child, Christina.

Gay ministers

Men and women in active homosexual relationships can become serving ministers, as long as their local church does not object, the United Reformed Church has decided. But it failed to reach a decision on the suitability of active homosexuals and lesbians for ministerial training.

Door deadline

Rail companies have been told to phase out more quickly "alarm-dog" trains of the type blamed for some of the 35 deaths in the Clapham train crash. The Health and Safety Executive wants the 2007 deadline for replacing or improving 2,300 carriages moved forward four years.

Sentence doubts

A Crown appeal is being considered against a sentence of 200 hours' community service given to a husband who stabbed his unfaithful wife to death. David Swinburne, of Blaxtyn, Lancashire, had admitted the culpable homicide of his wife, Margaret, at the High Court in Edinburgh.

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Solicitors get help to cut complaints

By Our Legal Correspondent

LEADERS of the solicitors' profession yesterday launched a drive to improve the way solicitors communicate with clients and cut the 19,000 complaints a year about the profession.

The Law Society, the professional body for 65,000 solicitors in England and Wales, is under pressure to improve its record or face possible government action — with the risk of losing the right to handle its own complaints.

Yesterday the society and the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors announced an initiative in which every solicitor will receive a guide on how to "think like clients" and preempt common causes of dissatisfaction.

Geoff Hoon, the junior minister in the Lord Chancellor's Department, attended the launch. He welcomed the move but confirmed that the newly organised Office for the Supervision of Solicitors was under scrutiny.

He said: "My experience from constituents has been very great dissatisfaction with the previous system of handling complaints and I do hope the new office will change that. This guide should make a valuable contribution both to reduce the numbers of complaints or resolve them speedily."

Mr Hoon added that the former Solicitors Complaints Bureau had tended sometimes "to find reasons why it should not pursue complaints rather than reasons as to why it should".

Councils may face £1m bill in refugee case

By Frances Gibb
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL authorities in London face a potential £1 million bill after a High Court ruling yesterday that a council's cash payments to single asylum seekers denied state benefits were unlawful.

Mr Justice Laws said the payments — made by the London boroughs of Fulham and Hammersmith to asylum seekers finding it hard to live while their claims for refugee status were considered — had never been properly authorised.

The latest ruling could cost the capital's local authorities "over a million pounds" in money they fear they cannot now claw back from the Government.

Mr Justice Laws said the Department of Health had correctly argued the payments should never have been made as they had never been contemplated under the National Assistance Act 1948. The judge said the law only allowed councils "to make arrangements for the provision of food, shelter and the basics of life to asylum seekers — and nothing else".

Later, Stephen Burke, chair of the council's social services committee, said the authority was housing some 150 single asylum seekers — roughly half in hostels and half in bed and breakfast hotels — and making cash payments of £30 a week per person for food and toiletries. It made the payments in cash rather than provide all the meals and the necessities of life, such as toiletries.

THE TIMES Crossword Championship 1997

The Times Crossword Championship 1997 will take place at the first Mind Sports Olympiad, at the Royal Festival Hall, London, on Sunday August 24 between 3pm and 6.30pm.

This year's championship will be in a new format. It will be launched with a qualifying puzzle which will be published in *The Times* next Thursday, July 17. Readers who solve this qualifier will then be invited to the Royal Festival Hall to compete in further rounds for the chance to become this year's champion.

THE MIND SPORTS OLYMPIAD



Royal Festival Hall, London, 10-24 August 1997

SEE THE QUALIFYING CROSSWORD IN THE TIMES ON THURSDAY, JULY 17

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A 12-YEAR-OLD boy with
grudge against teachers tried
to set fire to his headteacher's
car as his mother sat in
school meeting about his
future, a court was told
yesterday.
He dropped lighted matches
into the petrol tank of the
Vaughan Cavalier. When
he failed to ignite he smashed the
car's windows and bodywork
causing about £1,000
damage.
Five days after being
pelled for the incident the boy
who cannot be named for
legal reasons, returned to the
school in Haverhill, Bolton
and threw a brick through the
windscreen of the depu
head's car, causing

Three friends died as storm hit yacht

Survivor tells
inquest how
men were swept
away. Stephen
Farrell reports

THE SOLE survivor of a sailing tragedy watched helplessly as force nine gales swept three of his friends overboard to their deaths.

Sergeant Martin Humble, 30, wept yesterday at the inquest on his two Metropolitan Police colleagues — the boat's skipper, Detective Constable Tony Upton, 35, PC Joseph Charnley, 35 — and David Asquith, 18, Constable Upton's nephew. Their 35ft yacht *Fairview Two* was hit by heavy storms on February 19 in the Solent off the Needles, a channel described by coastguards as an "evil place".

Sergeant Humble told how the boat capsized twice on the final leg of a five-day pleasure cruise, washing Constable Upton and David Asquith out to sea and leaving PC Charnley hanging to the boat by his leg with his face in the water.

Although he twice sent emergency calls giving the vessel's name and location, the radio was waterlogged and coastguards only received "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday" — can anyone rescue me?

He told John Matthews, the Isle of Wight Coroner, that Constable Upton had received a weather fax that morning warning of force seven to force eight winds, gusting to force



The yacht *Fairview Two*, in which two Metropolitan policemen and a young man died last February, after being brought to the surface and beached. Below, Sergeant Humble at the inquest yesterday

nine, but the crew decided to proceed to "test" themselves. In fact the storms reached force ten.

"As we approached the Needles, Tony Upton checked the compass and told us to steer 180 degrees to starboard. By now it was impossible to communicate because of the noise of the waves. We could only make ourselves heard by shouting," Sergeant Humble said. "Suddenly an enormous

wave hit us on the port side. It was two times as high as anything else and had a very steep face. We rolled up part of it and then capsized. I surfaced still attached to a lifeline and saw Tony was 25ft away with his lifejacket inflated. He didn't make any attempt to swim. Thirty seconds later the boat righted itself and David and PC Charnley got back on board."

Upon drifted away, powerless to help because the engines had failed. Sergeant Humble went to send the Mayday, and was about to return when the boat capsized again, throwing David Asquith overboard. "I tried to throw a fender to him but after a couple of minutes of swimming he stopped. I then noticed PC Charnley's boot trapped by the side of the boat and saw he was hanging

upside down in the water. "I tried to pull him clear but his face was blue and I assumed he was dead. There were no signs of life on him," Sergeant Humble remained trapped on board with the body of PC Charnley for four hours as the dismasted yacht drifted past the Isle of Wight coast. It was eventually seen near Gurnard and the alarm was raised. Lifeboat crews launched a search for the missing men.

Their bodies were found later. The group — the adults were members of the Metropolitan Police Sailing Club — had chartered the boat intending to sail down the coast to Weymouth. However, bad weather forced them to stop at Poole, Dorset, where a fifth crew member, WPC Jane Turner, got off suffering from seasickness.

Mr Matthews, recording verdicts of accidental death, said a combination of factors was to blame: an error of judgment in deciding to sail through the Needles Channel instead of a safer northern route, the size of the waves that struck the boat, and the failure of the Mayday messages to give the boat's location.

"It is a matter of great regret to me that three splendid men should have come to the end of their lives in such a way," he said.

Pupil in French crash comforts driver of coach

By ADRIAN LEE AND SUSAN BEIL

THE last of the injured pupils to return home after the fatal school bus crash in France visited the driver in hospital yesterday before his departure. Laura England, 15, who has fractured vertebrae, left hospital in Mottiers in a stretcher.

Laura visited Jim Shaw, 43, who was being treated for broken ribs and bruising. Nicky Gale, a PE teacher who had stayed behind to comfort Miss England, said: "Laura wanted to tell him that he should not blame himself for what happened. She understands the predicament he is in. He was very moved by what she said."

"If you had seen the road and how narrow it was you would know that we don't blame him at all." Two boys and a girl died in the crash.

The road through the Alps in the Haute Savoie region was 12ft wide at the point where the 25-seat coach fell into a ravine on Monday. Warning signs had been posted on the route stating that it was narrow and unsuitable for some large vehicles.

The French police investigation into the crash continued yesterday but there were no indications that Mr Shaw would face criminal charges, British

Embassy officials in Mottiers said. A statement was issued on behalf of Mr Shaw yesterday in which he expressed his regret over the accident and extended his condolences to the bereaved.

Andy Leigh, the leader of the party from St James's School, Farnworth, near Bolton, who is head of PE, said that the children were all heroes. "Each one has a story to tell about what they did and all of them were so brave."

David Bowes, the head teacher, said Laura, who had been thrown from the coach in the crash, "bounced" down the mountainside. Despite her injuries she scrambled up the hill to call for help and helped the alpine instructors to give heart massage to her dying friend Nicola Moore.

German police were yesterday searching for a hit-and-run driver who forced a British double-decker coach carrying Oxford schoolchildren to crash on a narrow road in the Black Forest. Six pupils from St Augustine's School, aged between 13 and 15, were taken to hospital and one boy was held overnight to monitor for chest injuries. Police praised the quick reactions of the British driver, Barry Smith, 44.



Laura England leaving the hospital yesterday

We were so in love, Andrews told police

By A STAFF REPORTER

TRACIE ANDREWS, accused of the roadside murder of her fiancé, Lee Harvey, told police that they were deeply in love despite arguments.

Birmingham Crown Court has heard that the couple had a tempestuous relationship and the prosecution claims that Mr Harvey's murder was the final episode in their affair. He was stabbed to death near their home in Alvechurch, Hereford and Worcester, after they had spent an evening at a pub.

Miss Andrews, 28, told police: "We have had our arguments and split up a few times, when Lee would go back to his parents' house, but we always got back together and love each other very much."

"Lee is a very friendly, outgoing person. He's outspoken and speaks his mind no matter who is there. He's an extremely kind, loving person."

She admitted that they had a tiff on the day of the murder, but said it was "nothing major". They had been their "normal selves" at the pub, she said, talking about their children from previous relationships. She told detectives that Mr Harvey had made a snide comment about the father of her six-year-old daughter, but they had not argued. "I suppose Lee's just jealous over the fact that I was with the other man."

In the police interviews she was unable to explain numerous discrepancies in her description of the murder, which she said was carried out by a passenger in a Sierra which had chased their car.

Officers told her they had found a substantial clump of blonde hair, like hers, close to Mr Harvey's body. "I don't know who pulled my hair. My hair comes out easily anyway," she said.

Miss Andrews denies murder. The trial continues.



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Expelled boy, 12, tried to set fire to headteacher's car

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy with a grudge against teachers tried to set fire to his headteacher's car as his mother sat in a school meeting about his future, a court was told yesterday.

He dropped lighted matches into the petrol tank of the Vauxhall Cavalier. When it failed to ignite he smashed the car's windows and bodywork, causing about £1,000 of damage.

Five days after being expelled for the incident the boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, returned to the school in Horwich, Bolton, and threw a brick through the windscreen of the deputy head's car, causing £300 of

damage. The boy appeared before a youth court at Bolton yesterday, handcuffed to a security guard, and admitted a series of offences against the teachers and school property. The damage totalled £1,840. Sentencing was adjourned to July 30 for social and psychiatric reports.

After the hearing Stewart Jackson, of Bolton Education Authority, said the boy had been suspended from the school for 10 days after setting fire to curtains.

"In the middle of that period there was an annual review, with the head, the parents' and the child present," he said. "But he left the meeting

and that is when he damaged the car of the head teacher. Luckily the head had filled up his car because it was Budget Day, because the fireman said that if it had been half-empty and full of vapours, it would have gone up, not only in the boy's face but could have been a danger for everyone."

Mr Jackson said a suitable alternative school was being sought for the boy, who had "quite serious emotional and behavioural problems".

He was released on bail with conditions not to go within a mile of the school, not to go out without an adult and to have no contact directly or indirectly with the headmaster.

Booth in lesb

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BRITISH AIRWAYS



Lisa Grant, left, and Jill Percy yesterday. They are claiming equal employment rights to heterosexual couples

Booth takes on Blair in lesbian rights case

FROM CHARLES BRENNER
IN LUXEMBOURG

CHERIE BOOTH deployed her legal talents before the European Court yesterday, pleading the cause of lesbian rights and crossing swords with her husband's Government.

Fifteen cherry-robed judges gazed down from their high bench in the Luxembourg courtroom on Ms Booth, QC, as she insisted, sometimes with passion, that European law on sexual discrimination must be extended by them to cover the spouse's travel benefits of Lisa Grant, 29, a lesbian employee of South West Trains.

Many of the judges, as well as sightseeing lawyers on the public benches, were clearly intrigued by the little piece of history in the making as a British Prime Minister's wife not only pleaded in an international court, but against her husband's Government, albeit indirectly. Standing tall in high-heeled shoes and barrister's wig, Ms Booth insisted that "a human being cannot be penalised for choosing to express their sexual identity". She added: "The right to human intimacy is a basic human right and I would suggest a fundamental human need."

She opposed the British Government's opinion on the case — that the EU has no power to regulate over the sexual orientation of workers



Cherie Booth at the European Court yesterday

— and welcomed the decision by European leaders at last month's Amsterdam summit to expand EU guarantees on freedom from discrimination.

Ms Booth's client is a railway telephone information employee who is suing South West Trains for refusing to grant Jill Percy, 38, a nurse and her partner of five years, the same free travel pass that it extends to heterosexual couples, whether married or unmarried. Stonewall, the lesbian rights group, engaged Ms Booth and her team to fight the case, which was sent to Luxembourg last year by a local tribunal.

Ms Percy said Ms Booth had been engaged as the "leading QC on discrimination law". Ms Booth was one

of seven British barristers at the hearing. Their wiggled heads and muffled manners contrasted with the continental court, which has the feel of an upmarket Odeon. Banks of interpreters translated Ms Booth's light, Liverpool-accented tones into the EU's ten other official languages as she fought it out with counsel for the train company and the Government.

Ms Booth spoke for half an hour, pressing an argument that "South West Trains' policy is based on the stereotype that men live with female partners and women with a male partner and not partners of the same sex". The case was simply a matter of sexual discrimination, covered by Article 117 of the Treaty of Rome,

she said. Ms Grant's male predecessor had received £1,000 a year more "pay" because he had benefited from the travel pass in that value for his woman partner, Ms Booth said.

Her arguments flew in the face of the new Government's representation to the court. Patrick Elias, QC, for the Government, rejected Ms Booth's approach, but softened the original argument, which was sent to the European court under the Conservative administration. The new Government now supported the extension of laws to guarantee equal treatment of homosexuals, he said, but these must be devised delicately, taking into account religious and other sensitivities.

"This... should not be decided by your lordships by artificially extending a concept of sexual discrimination."

Ms Booth's case was rejected as "fallacious" by Nicholas Underhill, QC, for the train company. European law referred to gender, not to orientation, he said. He summed up: "It's a question of who you are, not who you prefer." The company was within its rights to restrict free travel to heterosexuals.

The notoriously tardy European Court of Justice is to offer a preliminary ruling, in the form of an "opinion" by Michael Bendick Elmer, its Advocate General, in September. A final decision may come by the end of the year.

Robbers who terrorised train commuters jailed for 10 years

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO men who held up a railway carriage of London commuters with an imitation gun and a machete were each jailed for ten years yesterday.

Anthony Baxter, 27, and his half-brother, Aaron, 20, stole £300 and spent the money on drugs within hours of their attack on the 18.12 from Charing Cross to Dartford, Kent, last October. Some of their victims still have nightmares and others will not travel on public transport.

The two were caught with the help of film from closed-circuit television cameras covering the rail and Underground network. Judge Henry Blacksell, QC, told the brothers, both from Deptford, south London, that they had picked on ordinary members of the public, the young and the old. He said passengers were told they could be shot and one was hit with the flat side of the machete blade. "You terrorised them and you knew what you were doing. You forced them to give up their personal belongings and you did not care. Their hurt, loss, fear and trauma means a deterrent sentence has to be passed."

Aaron Baxter was also jailed for a further nine months to run consecutively for escaping from a magistrates' court while he was being committed for trial. Anthony Baxter was jailed for three months to run consecutively for kicking and punching a prison officer during his brother's escape. At the time



Christina Haynes had a gun pushed in her face

both men were on licence from sentences for previous crimes involving firearms.

The two attacked more than 30 passengers as the train sped between London Bridge station and Deptford. One of them pointed the imitation pistol at the head and face of passengers at close range. Yesterday the court was told that Anthony Baxter was a heroin and crack cocaine addict. His brother also used crack cocaine. They were raised on the Pepps Estate in Deptford, one of the most crime-ridden areas in south London. Both have a long list of convictions.

The Baxters were caught after detectives searched film from more than 500 television cameras covering London Bridge, Waterloo and Charing Cross stations on the night of the robbery. Using descriptions given by passengers, they spotted the men on film of the concourse at Waterloo. They then began to trace the men's journey across the rail network and eventually put together a complete film of the men station.

The two men knew the cameras were operating but

tried to keep their faces out of sight. However, they did not bother when they began their journey at Holloway North Underground station, thinking they could not be traced back that far.

Five days after the robbery, police began circulating pictures of the men. Then Anthony Baxter's girlfriend, Georgina Clark, went to police. She had travelled with the brothers on the night of the robbery but did not take part.

'I THOUGHT RAID WAS A STUNT'

One of the victims, Christina Haynes, 38, who had been travelling to her home in southeast London, said last night: "At first, I was not at all frightened, because I thought it was all a joke, or part of a student rag-week stunt. It is not the kind of thing you expect to happen on a commuter train." But as the two robbers advanced through the carriage, screaming and shouting, she put her rings in her pocket and pushed her bracelets up her sleeves.

"Then one of them put a gun to my face and I knew they were deadly serious. He asked me for cash and I gave him all I had. I asked him if I could keep my purse, as I had personal things in it I didn't want to lose, and he allowed me to do so. One man tried to be a have-a-go hero and stood up to confront them, but he backed off when they threatened him."

Although a convicted criminal himself, she was scared by the incident and prepared to give evidence. She is now in hiding.

Police also discovered that the men had left fingerprints in the carriage because they had not bothered to wear gloves and could be identified by passengers who noticed them acting suspiciously.

Faced with the prosecution evidence, the Baxters decided on the second day of their trial to plead guilty.



Half-brothers Aaron, left, and Anthony Baxter spent their spoils on drugs shortly after the attack

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Source: The Research Department Ltd. All financial information is checked for accuracy on a weekly basis.

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Saturday in
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"I'm not
just a singer..."

I am also a
dancer, actress,
writer, video
director, poet,
hair stylist,
clothes
stylist, make-up
artist...
I am an artist,
full stop."

Alan Jackson meets
Erykah Badu, the
new Billie Holiday

MAGAZINE

Why parents are £50,000 out of pocket

By ALEXANDRA FREAN
SOCIAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

THE average child in Britain will have cost its parents £50,000 in food, clothing and leisure by the age of 17, according to a report commissioned by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and based on the living standards of more than 1,300 children and their parents.

It shows that there is little difference in the overall average spending on children from rich and poor families, and from two or one-parent households.

Sue Middleton, one of the report's authors, said that the findings demonstrated to what extent parents — particularly poor parents — are prepared to make sacrifices rather than see their children go without. "Children in one-parent families get only 10 per cent less spent on them than those in two-parent families," she said.

The survey, the first of its kind, will have far-reaching implications for policy makers at a time when the Government has ordered a radical rethink of the welfare system in an attempt to cut the £90 billion social security budget. It shows that many of the

	Babies				Pre-school				Primary				Secondary			
	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%	Mean £s	%
Food	13.95	32	16.08	39	17.78	38	21.70	41	21.70	41	21.70	41	21.70	41	21.70	41
Clothes	7.45	17	5.26	13	4.12	9	3.51	7	3.51	7	3.51	7	3.51	7	3.51	7
Nappies	6.63	15	1.81	4	0.15	0	0.72	1	0.72	1	0.72	1	0.72	1	0.72	1
School					3.85	8	5.82	13	5.82	13	5.82	13	5.82	13	5.82	13
Activities	1.98	4	2.40	6	5.75	12	4.97	9	4.97	9	4.97	9	4.97	9	4.97	9
Babysitting	0.42	1	1.01	2	0.58	1	0.37	1	0.37	1	0.37	1	0.37	1	0.37	1
Telephone					0.15	0	0.72	1	0.72	1	0.72	1	0.72	1	0.72	1
Other regular spending	5.91	13	5.97	14	3.32	7	3.72	7	3.72	7	3.72	7	3.72	7	3.72	7
Other money	0.36	1	0.24	1	0.42	1	1.41	3	1.41	3	1.41	3	1.41	3	1.41	3
Christmas	2.38	5	2.59	6	3.06	7	4.03	8	4.03	8	4.03	8	4.03	8	4.03	8
Birthdays	1.36	3	1.62	4	1.49	3	1.85	4	1.85	4	1.85	4	1.85	4	1.85	4
Holidays/day trips/outings	3.77	9	4.30	10	5.78	12	4.28	9	4.28	9	4.28	9	4.28	9	4.28	9
Average per week	44.21	100	41.28	99	46.30	99	52.38	100	52.38	100	52.38	100	52.38	100	52.38	100
Childcare	7.64	17	10.52	25	3.16	7	0.86	2	0.86	2	0.86	2	0.86	2	0.86	2
Average per week including childcare	51.85		51.80		49.46		53.24		53.24		53.24		53.24		53.24	
Base	1,173		1,627		4,381		3,282		3,282		3,282		3,282		3,282	

calculations used by the benefits agencies and the Child Support Agency underestimate the real costs incurred by parents in rearing children.

Food is by far the largest element, accounting for more than a third of spending; it varies very little according to the economic circumstances of the family. Spending on activities and holidays takes up a

fifth of spending and birthdays and Christmas a further tenth. Children receive, on average, more than £250 of presents at Christmas, of which just under £100 is provided by people other than parents. Lone parents and parents on income support spend almost as much as other parents. Parents spend an average of £83 on birthdays,

with children of secondary school age receiving by far the most.

The survey also shows that parents spend significant amounts on their children's supposedly free state education, reaching an average of almost £6 a week when children are at secondary school. This does not include the cost of school uniforms, meals or

travel. More than half the spending goes on what might be regarded as essential elements of a child's education, such as school trips and extra lessons, as well as contributions towards books and equipment.

Ms Middleton said that the findings undermined many of the assumptions about how much children cost, which are

routinely used for the calculation of state benefits such as child benefit, income support allowances and family credit. The survey discovered, for example, that income support would cover just over half of what is spent on a child aged under 11 years. And although parents spend more on children as they get older, the study shows that the increase is nowhere near as much as is suggested by the age differentials in income support allowances used by the Department of Social Security to calculate benefit levels.

This means that younger children are severely disadvantaged in benefit calculations when compared with older children," Ms Middleton said. "The age differentials are also used by the Child Support Agency in calculating maintenance levels for children, which must also disadvantage younger children."

To protect their children from poverty and to keep spending on them as close as possible to the national average, parents constantly make sacrifices for them. Over half of all mothers sometimes go without new clothes, shoes and entertainment in order to provide for their children. One in 20 mothers sometimes goes without food.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Toddler drowns in nursery play area

A toddler aged 21 months drowned in a few inches of rainwater when he crawled onto a tarpaulin covering an ornamental pond at a children's nursery. The pond had been built for an episode of the BBC drama series *All Quiet on the Western Front*, which was filmed at the 19th-century farmhouse near Horwath, Lancashire. Staff told police that they had gathered children for a tracing game on the terrace when they discovered the victim. Alexander Rae was the only child of a single mother who placed him at the Moorland nursery, which cares for 11 children, when she returned to work.

Officer remanded

Michael Coulton, a former member of the Royal Protection and Diplomatic Squad, has appeared before Maudslayi magistrates accused of murdering his wife. Her body was found in her car at a nursing home in Berkshire in January. He was remanded in custody until July 17.

Twins' progress

Siamese twins separated in a six-hour operation at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London, last month may be well enough to go home with their parents to Cheshire at the end of the week. The girls, born in April, were joined at the abdomen and shared a liver.

Boy cleared

A schoolboy was cleared of causing the death of a baby he was looking after. The boy, who was 14 at the time, had been accused of the manslaughter of Calum Bryan, six months, who died last July. However, the prosecution offered no evidence against the boy at Preston Crown Court.

Bobbies on bleat

A town police force has bought 30 whistles to use for crowd control in emergencies. The traditional silver-colored policeman's whistle has not been issued to Brighton officers since the early 1980s, but is said to be "cheap and extremely effective in drawing the attention of crowds."

Go-slow thieves

Thieves stole what looked like two souped-up go-karts — and then wrecked and dumped them after discovering they had a top speed of 15 mph. The fuel-efficient vehicles were developed by pupils at Edlington School, Doncaster, for the Shell Mileage Marathon at Silverstone on July 18.

Firearms offences double on Merseyside

By TIM JONES

RISE crime is making Merseyside and the South West among the most lawless areas, according to a government report yesterday. The number of offences recorded in which firearms were used more than doubled in those regions between 1991 and 1995 but nearly halved in London. However, the robbery rate in London in 1995 was twice that of Merseyside, the region with the second highest figures, the Regional Trends survey showed. Overall, the North East had the highest crime rate in England and Wales, with 12,709 crimes per 100,000 people.

Life expectancy for women living in East Anglia or the South of England is higher than for women in the North of England. This might be for social and economic reasons. More than a quarter of households in the North East were on family credit or income support in 1995-96. In the North West, people were least likely to eat vegetables or fruit on at least five days a week. Overall, women can expect to live until they are 79, five years longer than men.

Regional Trends, prepared by Office for National Statistics, Stationery Office, £37.50.

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Sterilised mother who had baby wins £100,000

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A MOTHER who was unaware she was pregnant with her fourth child when she had a sterilisation operation made legal history yesterday when the High Court awarded her more than £100,000 against a consultant gynaecologist.

Mr Justice Langley ruled that Michael Burke had "taken his eye off the ball" when he failed to advise Lesley Crouchman that the operation in July 1991 should be delayed until she had taken a pregnancy test.

Mrs Crouchman, 41, was 16 weeks pregnant when she discovered the truth and, as a Roman Catholic, she had "understandably" decided it was too late to have an abortion which, by that stage, could only have been performed by induction of labour.

Mr Burke, a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, had "fallen below the minimum standard to be expected from a consultant gynaecologist in communicating with his patient", the judge ruled.

Mrs Crouchman, of Wallsend, North Tyneside, was

awarded £113,962 against the consultant, of which £102,521 is to cover the cost of bringing up her son, Matthew, to the age of 21. The court was told that Matthew is much loved by his family. The judge said £5,000 of the award was for the "shock and distress" his mother suffered when she found she was pregnant.

Mrs Crouchman's solicitor, Ian Sheridan, said later that the judge's ruling "extends medical negligence liability to a sterilisation operation carried out when the woman has already conceived, unknown to herself or the gynaecologist".

Mrs Crouchman and her

husband, a civil engineer, already had three children and had decided their family was complete before she underwent the laparoscopic clip sterilisation operation at Nuffield Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, the judge said.

She had the year before suffered an ectopic pregnancy and the couple had been using condoms. Mr Burke had told the court during a seven-day hearing last month that the chances of her being pregnant at the time of the operation was one in 40,000. But the judge said that there was always some risk of pregnancy where sterilisation was

carried out in the second half of a woman's menstrual cycle and condoms were "well known to be fallible".

He accepted that Mrs Crouchman had told Mr Burke her period was late and that, had she been warned she might be pregnant, she would have opted for the operation being delayed so she could undergo a pregnancy test.

The judge said that Mrs Crouchman was a "straightforward and truthful witness" and that had she known of her pregnancy earlier she would have gone ahead with an abortion. When they were told of the pregnancy, both she and her husband were gravely concerned that the fetus might have been damaged by the sterilisation operation.

In the event Matthew was born completely healthy. "Mrs Crouchman said, as did her husband, and I unhesitatingly accept, that once she had seen the fetus on the scan she could not even contemplate a termination, which would have required induction of labour," the judge said.



Lesley Crouchman and her husband leaving the High Court last month during her case against a gynaecologist

Schools are told they need lesson in how to teach

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

TEACHER training departments and many schools will need to change the way they teach reading and basic mathematics if the Government's improvement targets are to be met, the Chief Inspector of Schools said yesterday.

Chris Woodhead, launching two videos to instruct schools on successful teaching of literacy and numeracy, said he believed the 40 per cent improvement demanded by ministers was "likely but not certain" to be achieved.

But the leap in standards would require an acceptance of methods still shunned by many in education, he said.



Woodhead: launched videos to help teachers

The videos, which include three inner-city primary schools among six featured, concentrate on traditional classroom practice, such as whole-class teaching and the use of phonics (sounding out letters) to teach reading. Mr Woodhead said: "If we can find a way to disseminate these methods, it is perfectly possible that 80 per cent of our children should be able to hit the target by 2002."

Only 54 per cent of 11-year-olds reached the expected standard for their age group in mathematics and 58 per cent in English in last summer's national tests. This week's Schools White Paper confirmed that the Government expected 80 per cent to do so by the end of this Parliament.

But recently qualified teachers featured in the films said that their training had left them unable to teach reading effectively. The use of phonics was still frowned upon and dismissed as "barking at print". Melanie Irwin, a nursery teacher at Kobi Nazrul Primary School, in Tower Hamlets, east London, said: "Everything I have learned about teaching reading I have picked up on the job."

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Sir Rodney Sweetman, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, said yesterday that the new indicators could lead to seriously ill patients being turned away by some hospitals in case they died and gave them a bad clinical performance indicator.

□ The tables show: col 1, percentage of patients seen within 13 weeks of referral by GP; col 2, percentage of patients seen within 26 weeks; col 3, percentage of patients who did not attend appointments

NORTH WEST

Andrew Hospitals	87	95	10
Blackburn, Hyndburn & Ribbles Valley	87	95	10
Blackpool Victoria Hospital	86	100	7
Blackpool, Wyre & Fylde Comm Health Serv	90	95	15
Bolton Hospitals	90	100	10
Burnley Healthcare	79	95	10
Bury Health	77	95	15
Central Manchester Healthcare Trust	87	95	15
Cheshire Community Healthcare	84	95	20
Chester & Nelson Community	76	100	8
Croft & South Ribbles	76	7	8
Christie	100	100	0
Clatterbridge Centres for Oncology	100	100	0
Connerburne	85	100	20
Community Healthcare Bolton	85	100	20
Counsell of Chester Hospital	84	95	8
East Cheshire Hospitals	91	95	5
Farness Hospitals	89	95	5
Gate Community Healthcare	92	100	15
Haltwhistle Hospital	90	95	10
Lancaster Acute Hospitals	95	95	5
Lancaster & Fylde Services	89	100	11
Liverpool Women's Hospital	93	95	14
Manchester Children's Hospitals	89	100	14
Manchester Community Health	100	100	0
Mental Health Services of Salford	100	100	18
Mid-Cheshire Hospitals	78	95	8
North Manchester Healthcare	78	95	14
North Mersey Community	83	95	28
Preston Acute Hospitals	80	95	12
Rochdale Healthcare	87	95	8
Royal Liverpool & Broadgreen Univ Hosp	87	95	14
Royal Liverpool Children's	88	95	11
St Helens & Knowsley Community Health	90	100	29
St Helens & Knowsley Hospitals	90	95	11
Salford Community Health Care	85	95	11
Salford Royal Hospitals	85	95	11
South Cumbria Comm & Mental Health	79	95	7
South Manchester University Hospitals	84	95	14
Southport & Formby Comm Health Services	84	95	14
Southport & Formby	77	95	12
Southport & Formby Health Services	81	95	10
Stockport Healthcare	86	100	10
Tameside & Glossop Acute Services	85	95	11
Tameside & Glossop Comm & Priority Servs	85	95	11
The Cardiothoracic Centre - Liverpool	100	100	10
Trafford Healthcare	88	95	11
Warrington Centre for Neurology & Neurosurgery	88	95	11
Warrington Community Healthcare	88	100	16
Warrington Hospital	82	95	11
West Cheshire	77	95	22
West Lancashire	79	95	8
Westmorland Hospitals	82	100	13
Wigan & Leigh Health Services	73	95	11
Widnes Community Healthcare	80	95	11
Widnes Hospital	70	91	12
Widnes & Leigh Health Services	70	91	12

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Dig uncovers Roman age doctor's kit

Instruments found at burial site in Colchester include scalpels, a saw and hooks, Nigel Hawkes reports

A SET of medical instruments from the Roman period has been unearthed at an archaeological site in Colchester. It is the most complete set found in Britain.

It includes scalpels, a saw for performing amputations, hooks for operations such as removing tonsils, tweezers, a spatula and a series of needles of different sizes used for cauterising wounds. The instruments are made of iron or a copper alloy.

The medical kit was found in a burial site by Colchester Archaeological Trust. Last year the remains of a Roman board game were found at the same site, opposite Colchester Zoo. The instruments were found close by but could not be identified until they had been X-rayed, cleaned and conserved.

Philip Crummy, director of the trust, said the only object missing was a bleeding cup, which all physicians of the period would have used. One instrument remains a mystery: it is a large, hairpin-shaped object with its points turned outwards. He believes it may have been used as a retractor to keep open an incision during surgery.

Ralph Jackson, a curator in the Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities at the British Museum, and an expert on early medical instruments, said: "This is an enormously important discovery because it is the first time in Britain that an organised archaeological dig has uncovered a set of medical instruments."

"Furthermore, it means we can be fairly certain that the grave is that of the physician or healer who used these tools. Members of other professions in Roman times were not normally buried with the tools of their trade."

The physician was not Roman, but a Briton who lived at the time of the Roman conquest. The site contains a sequence of burials of high-

ranking Britons covering several centuries. Mr Crummy said this particular burial dated from some time in the 50s AD, about ten years after the invasion.

Mr Jackson, author of *Doctors and Disease in the Roman Empire*, said that the instruments were fascinating because of their subtle difference from sets found elsewhere in the Roman Empire. "Only one item, the scoop probe, is absolutely identical to other Roman kits. So it looks as if this was made in Britain, using knowledge from the Romans."

"It is also very early — only about 50 years after the first Roman medical instruments became recognisable as such. Before that, they were so similar to domestic or craft tools that you can't be sure they were used medically."

The Romans were capable of a range of basic surgical operations, he said, including removing tonsils and cataracts. "They didn't do appendectomies, but they did carry out amputations. The owner of these instruments would also have used the little saw for trimming bones broken in accidents or warfare, before setting them. The great majority of his work would have been wounds or injuries."

The burials may include those of relatives or close aides of Cunobelin — Shakespeare's Cymbeline — but not that of Cunobelin himself. He was King of the Catuvellauni, the tribe that dominated the area at the time of the invasion.

In the same grave as the medical instruments, were eight rods about 1½ long with chisel-shaped ends and spherical terminals, half iron and half copper. Mr Crummy believes they may have been used for divination. "Doctors consulted the gods and used divination techniques," he said. "They were learned people, like the druids, and may also have gone in for



Colin Austin, an archaeological excavator, displays replicas of the medical instruments that were found in the burial site at Colchester

chanting and brewing potions."

It is also Mr Jackson's guess that the rods were used for divination, but he stresses it is a guess. "They are unique. They are clearly not functional, and they are not surgical instruments, but they appear to be a set. Foretelling the future would have gone hand-in-hand with medical practice. Perhaps the doctors cast the rods to find out if it was a propitious time to operate."

The burial also included a large metal urn, with a built-in filter, which might have been used for making infusions from leaves or herbs. The dig is at a sand and gravel quarry run by Tarmac, which has supported the work. This year's dig began yesterday and will last until the middle of September. The site will be open to visitors from Wednesday to Sunday each week, 10am to 4pm. The cost is £1 for adults and 50p for children. Proceeds will go Colchester Archaeological

Trust for future archaeological work.

Steve Lamb, divisional land and minerals manager for Tarmac, said: "We have provided a large part of the costs of the dig. We are under no obligation to, but we thought it was worthwhile. We are delighted to be involved with such a successful dig."

Researchers working in a village in northeast Scotland have unearthed four stones elaborately carved by the Picts. They were discovered in

the foundations of a church that dates from the Middle Ages on the site of what archaeologists believe was once a major Pictish religious settlement.

The 1,200-year-old carvings were unveiled yesterday at Tarbat Old Church in Portmahomack, on Dornoch Firth, after the final stone was pulled from the ground. One of the stones was inscribed to mark an early Christian grave and has a primitive cross on each side. Another shows

intricate carvings of a wild boar, a lion and a mythical beast.

The early Celtic artwork was discovered by archaeologists from the University of York in the crypt wall underneath the present church. They had been used to build the foundations of a medieval church, which was also uncovered by the researchers.

George MacQuarrie, general manager of the Tarbat Historic Trust, said the find was one of the most significant in Scotland in recent years. "Coupled with other similar pieces we have gathered over the past 200 years, it could help us piece together more vital clues about who the Picts really were."

Experts believe that the stones were carved after the arrival of St Columba, the Irish missionary, in Scotland.

Leading article, page 23

Siberian tiger may number only 250 in wild

By Nick Nuttall
Environment
Correspondent

THERE may be only 250 Siberian tigers left in the wild, half the official estimate, according to new research using sniffer dogs.

Last year a survey by the World Wide Fund for Nature calculated that there were between 415 and 475 of the animals in Russia's far east.

However, scientists fear that the survey was flawed. Sergei Shaitarov, of the Tiger Protection Society in Vladivostok, told *New Scientist*: "It's a question of methods. The WWF estimated the numbers of tigers by counting tracks in the snow." He believes that this may lead to tigers being counted more than once.

The new method, which has been piloted at the Lazovsky State Nature Reserve in the region of Primorsky Krai, uses German shepherd dogs that have been trained to distinguish between the scent markings of different tigers.

Tigers leave droppings and urine to mark territories. They also leave gland secretions on tree bark when they are sharpening their claws. The scents are like fingerprints, particular to each animal.

"Using this method we have been able to count tigers all year round," Galina Salkina, the reserve's cat specialist, said.

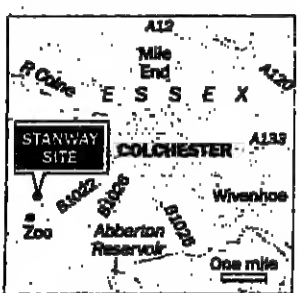
The research put the number of tigers in the reserve at 12 rather than the 22 estimated by the WWF. By scaling the results up to all areas known to have Siberian tigers, the researchers estimated the population at 250 rather than the 400-plus calculated by the WWF survey.

Sally Nicholson, of the WWF, said yesterday that its research had involved large numbers of Germans and Russians looking for tracks. "It does not matter which survey is right. There are too few Siberian tigers, whatever the number," she added.

Recognisable tools of trade

The instruments from Roman times that have been found in Colchester lack the sterile shine of their modern counterparts which glister on trays in operating theatres, but they are recognisable surgical tools (Dr Thomas Stamford writes). It is interesting that all the instruments unearthed at the archaeological site have been found together, suggesting

that even at this time people must have practised as specialist surgeons, who would need different instruments for different tasks. Any surgeon using these instruments would have had a saw, a scalp, forceps, a spud (a sharpened spoon for scooping out tissue), hooks, and retractors for holding the edges of cut tissue apart.



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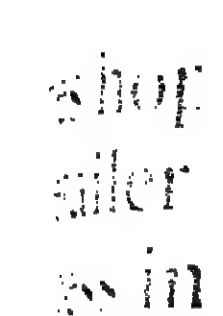
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Richard Brown

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Haughey admits to £1.2m gift from rich businessman

By Audrey Maguire
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

CHARLES HAUGHEY admitted yesterday that he illegally accepted £1.2 million from a supermarket tycoon while he was Prime Minister of the Irish Republic.

At a hearing of a tribunal investigating payments to politicians by Ben Dunne, the former chairman of Dunnes Stores, Mr Haughey surrendered in the face of mounting evidence against him.

He had initially denied claims by Mr Dunne that the money had been given to help him out of debt. Last week he amended that denial to say that "in all probability" he had taken the money but could not remember from whom. Yesterday he admitted taking the money and knowing that it came from Mr Dunne.

In a statement read out to the tribunal by his counsel, Mr Haughey said that he had altered his position because of



Dunne said he felt sorry for Mr Haughey.

the "excellent work" carried out by the tribunal, and the "helpful" documentation submitted by Mr Dunne. The former Prime Minister also admitted lying to his lawyers. Mr Haughey, who will give evidence to the tribunal on Monday, received the money in instalments between 1987 and 1991. He was Taoiseach for the entire period. Most of the money was sent to him through accounts in London,

and the Cayman Islands, although in November 1991, Mr Dunne handed Mr Haughey £210,000 in three bank drafts bearing fictitious names.

Mr Dunne told the tribunal that he did not expect or receive any political favours for the money. "I just felt sorry for him," he said.

Mr Haughey now faces a massive tax bill and the possibility — although remote — of a jail sentence. Tax experts estimate that he could face a bill of £750,000 or more, and is likely to be declared bankrupt.

His admission solves one of the great mysteries of Irish politics: where did Mr Haughey get his wealth? The son of an army officer, Mr Haughey, 72, entered adulthood with virtually no money. By the time he left Irish politics in 1992, he owned an enormous house, an island, a yacht and entertained with only the best food and wine. It was considered quite a feat for a Prime Minister on a salary



Charles Haughey at his home in Co Dublin. He also owns an island off Co Kerry but until yesterday the source of his wealth was unexplained.

of about £70,000 and with no other visible form of income. Mr Haughey lives in Abbeville, a 200-year-old mansion in Kinsale, Co Dublin, where he keeps horses in the extensive wooded grounds. He bought a 50-foot ketch, *The Celtic Mist* for £200,000 and needs a helicopter to get to

Inishvickillane, the Co Kerry island which he bought for about £25,000 in 1974, when his parliamentary salary was £5,000. He built a holiday home on the island that would today cost £250,000. Most of the materials had to be carried by helicopter across the nine-mile stretch of the Atlantic.

When asked at press conferences about the source of his wealth, Mr Haughey would reply: "Ask my bank manager." But in the late 1980s, rumours began circulating that he was in debt. Des Traynor, his accountant and friend, approached Mr Dunne, heir

to the Dunnes Stores group of supermarkets and playboy of the Dublin business world. Mr Dunne agreed to help and a network of accounts in London and the Cayman Islands was set up to deal with transferring the money.

Mr Haughey has caused severe embarrassment to his Fianna Fail party colleagues. He was once seen as a statesman and possible successor to President Mary Robinson, but now faces humiliation. In the words of one Dublin observer, Mr Haughey has changed from being "a loveable old rascal to a lying old cheat".

Tories hope local retailer has success in store

By Polly Newton, Political Reporter

THE Conservatives' selection of John Randall to fight the first by-election of the new Parliament raised a few eyebrows at Westminster.

MPs had been hoping for a high-profile former member with his sights set on an early return to the Commons. They were presented instead with a local businessman and long-standing member of the Uxbridge Conservative Association who "enjoys music, plays the piano and is a keen ornithologist".

However, the biographical notes provided by Conservative Central Office said: "The real appeal of Mr Randall to Tory voters in West London. Party managers are hoping against faint hope that on July 31 they can hang on to the seat left vacant by the death of Sir Michael Shersby a week after the election."

The wife for the by-election was moved by the Conservatives yesterday and while Mr Randall may be seen in Westminster as a bit of a nobody, in Uxbridge and its environs, he is most definitely somebody. He is the managing director of Randall's of Uxbridge, the magnificently old-fashioned department store founded by his great grandfather, Philip, in 1891.

Mr Randall, who began his working life as a Saturday boy in the shop before graduating through porter, sales assistant and buyer to managing director, does not deny it is old-fashioned. He says that there are lots of good things about being old-fashioned, "old-fashioned values, old-fashioned courtesy."

He denies that he sees himself as the modern day equivalent of the local benefactor whose political elevation is inevitable. "You do feel a certain responsibility, but it is certainly not in a patronising way." The most important thing about his position, he says, is that it means he knows about local people and their concerns.

The Tories intend to play the local card relentlessly in Uxbridge, exploiting the frustration and anger of those Labour activists in the constituency who feel that their own

candidate, Andrew Slaughter, was imposed on them against their will. David Williams, who stood for Labour at the General Election, and who reduced Sir Michael's majority to 724, was excluded from the final shortlist by Labour's NEC. It was a decision one local Labour councillor, Shirley Virando, has described as "totally undemocratic" and "a grave mistake, which I believe will ultimately cost us the seat."

Mr Slaughter, who lives in Putnam, claimed local connections after his selection. "I come from west London, and I think most people from Uxbridge see themselves as coming from west London." This did not go down well with most people in Uxbridge.



Randall: responsibility

many of them do not consider that they come from London at all.

Ruth Hawbridge, executive manager of the Select Recruitment agency, next door to Randall's, believes that John Randall's roots will be an asset to the Tories. "Sir Michael Shersby was a local man and he sustained an awful lot of his popularity because of that."

"Randall's itself is quite a prominent local business. It's been in Uxbridge a long time. I think John Randall will hold that localised image that Michael Shersby had. If there is anything that would swing it for him, I think it would be that."

The Conservatives know that a Labour victory is likely, but they are hoping that Randall of Uxbridge might just be able to deliver the goods.

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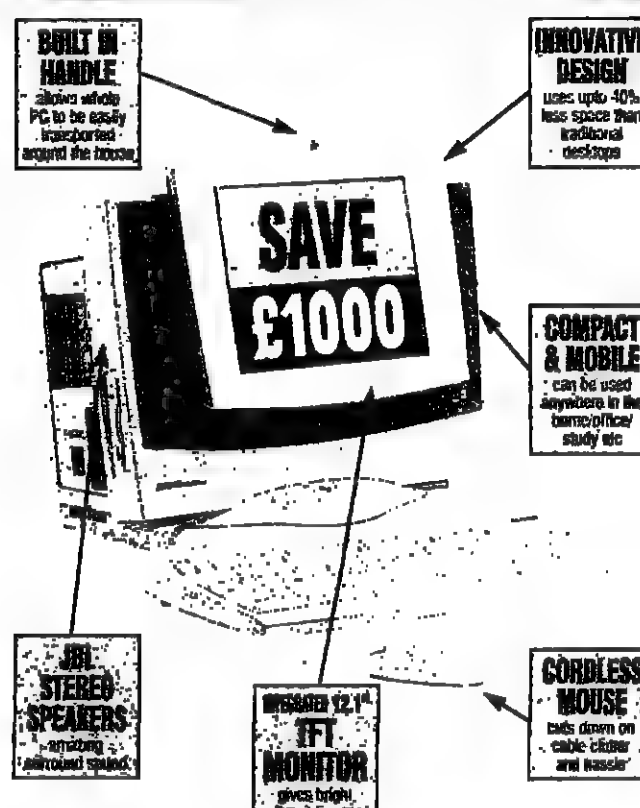
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Simon decried pension plans before election

Andrew Pierce on further trouble for a businessman turned minister

THE minister at the centre of the BP shares row, Lord Simon of Highbury, criticised Gordon Brown's proposals in his pension funds only days before he joined the Government.

The disclosure yesterday that he attacked a plan, which will raise more money for the Chancellor than the Budget's windfall tax, came as a further embarrassment to Lord Simon as the Tories again demanded that he resign over the failure to declare £2.15 million of BP shares.

The Times has learnt that Lord Simon, then chairman of BP, wrote a letter on May 1, the day of the general election, warning of the dangers of the proposals to use tax credits on dividends for pension funds, which was to become a centrepiece of the Budget.

The revelation of the intervention by Lord Simon, who was a surprise appointment as Minister for Competitiveness and Trade in Europe, will be exploited by the Tories.

Lord Simon's letter to Ann

Robinson, director-general of the National Association of Pension Funds, only criticised the prospect of such a move and called for lengthy consultation before any changes. Mr Brown's plan is being pushed through, unusually rapidly according to the Tories, in the Finance Bill this month.

Lord Simon's remarks were in a covering letter to Ms Robinson which was attached to a much more lengthy criticism of the scheme, written by John Browne, the chief executive of BP, which had been sent earlier to the Confederation of British Industry. He was expressing the view of the board of BP, one of Britain's biggest employers, that the plan would be bad for people with occupational pensions and the pensions industry. He was responding to the association's "Agenda for Pensions".

A BP spokesman said: "It was private correspondence with the National Association of Pension Funds which I cannot discuss." The association took a similar view.

But The Times has learnt that when the letter was written, before Lord Simon had an inkling that he would be offered a ministerial job, he already suspected that the change on tax credits would become Labour Party policy if Tony Blair won the election.

The Tories kept up the pressure on the minister yesterday over his failure to record the holding of the £2.15 million of BP shares in the Register of Lords' Interests. He was not required to declare the holding but Tory MPs believe that he is compromised by a potential conflict of interest because he has retained the shares. He has undertaken not to trade in them before January 1998.

Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, yesterday rejected calls for an inquiry because he was content with the arrangements made by the Department of Trade and Industry to ensure there was no conflict.

John Redwood, the Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, said: "There should be a

proper inquiry and we will continue asking the questions until we have built an accurate picture of what action was taken to prevent any apparent or actual conflict of interest."

Steven Norris, the former Transport Minister who was criticised by Labour in the last Parliament when he took a job in the privatised bus industry, said: "Labour spent a long time talking about smoke without fire," he said. "The hypocrisy of their position has been appallingly exposed."

Barbara Roche, the junior Trade Minister, accused Tory MPs of muck-racking. "It's a great sadness that because a successful and world-class businessman has joined the new Labour Government as a minister that the Conservative Opposition are stooping to try to have this scrabbling around and to try to muck-rack in this way," she said.

"It's all clear. David Simon takes no part in the DTI or Treasury business which covers BP activity," she told BBC Radio 4's *The World At One*.



Lord Simon: he made critical remarks before any offer of a ministerial job

Mullin to chair key Commons committee

By Jill Sherman

CHRIS MULLIN, the left-wing MP who campaigned for the release of the Birmingham Six and the Guildford Four, has won the chairmanship of the Select Committee on Home Affairs.

The MP for Sunderland South and former editor of the leftwing *Tribune* newspaper has earned widespread respect for his successful campaigns but many thought his tendency to speak out against the Establishment would count against him.

A formal announcement of his appointment and those of other chairmen and women was held yesterday by last-minute haggling and arguments about the chairmanship of the Northern Ireland Committee. Party sources said that Labour had offered the Tories that post but there was disagreement over which MP should be appointed.

Labour has suggested taking 13 of the chairmanships, leaving four or five for the Tories and one for the Liberal Democrats.

Blair gets his sums in a twist over spending

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Tony Blair got himself into a muddle yesterday about public spending. This may partly have been because of his habit of speaking off-the-cuff at Prime Minister's Questions. It is a high-risk approach when so many topics can be raised. He has the barrister's ability to master a brief — one of the qualities that first commended him to his then pupil master, Derry Irvine, now the Lord Chancellor. Mr Blair is both authoritative and commanding on the issue of the moment. But he sometimes appears not to have fully thought out his views on less pressing topics. He has never claimed the omniscience of a Harold Wilson.

The point he stumbled on was the impact of the pick-up of inflation on public spending. The Liberal Democrats have been getting very excited about this and have a point, even though they exaggerate its significance. The GDP deflator, the measure of inflation used in calculating public spending in real terms, has been revised upwards compared with last November's Budget from 2 per cent to 2.75 per cent, both this year and next year.

Public spending is planned in cash terms so the effect of this upward revision is, by definition, to reduce future expenditure in real terms. That is an arithmetic truism: the Treasury's *Financial Statement and Budget Report* (what used to be called the Red Book) confirmed that "in real terms, control total expenditure is lower than projected at the time of the last Budget, due to the higher forecast for the GDP deflator". According to calculations by the House of Commons Library, last November's Budget projected a rise in overall spending in real terms of 3.5 per cent between 1996-97 and 1998-99. The latest estimate is 1.5 per cent over the period. As Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrats' Treasury spokesman, has pointed out, this means that overall spending this year will be £3 billion lower in real

terms than projected last November, and will be £54 billion lower next year.

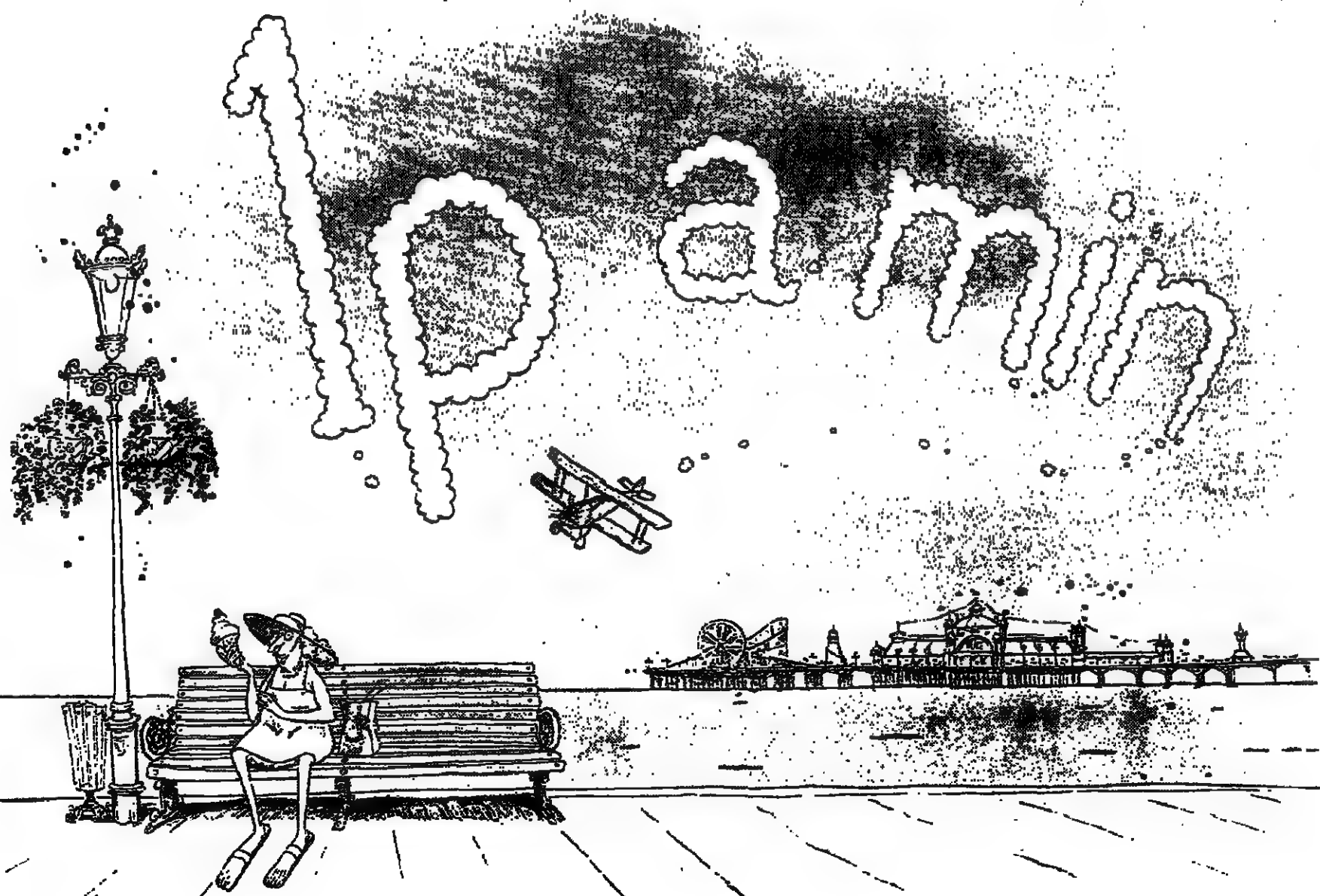
Mr Blair said that all that had happened was an increase in the projected inflation figures "as a result of the problems inherited". It is certainly true that it is not Labour's fault. But his remark that "the cash limits remain" is misleadingly disingenuous since these totals are worth less. This means that a lot of the much trumpeted increase in spending on health and education will not be so much of an addition as it appeared and will be absorbed by the pick-up in inflation. For instance, the £1.2 billion allocation to the NHS is cut back by two thirds by the revision in the inflation assumption to a rise of just over £400 million in real terms.

Of course, every little bit is welcome to the NHS and schools, but this analysis underlines the extent of the squeeze on spending, and the limits to Gordon Brown's generosity. General government consumption, that is spending on pay and the main current programmes excluding social security, is projected to decline in real terms this year and next. This has happened before when inflation has been higher than expected and cash expenditure totals have been held down — for instance, in the 1976-78 period and in the late 1980s.

But this does not mean, as the Liberal Democrats imply, that services need to be squeezed as much as total spending. The link between inflation, real spending and services is not so mechanistic. In the past, services have been maintained by holding down costs, including pay, to below forecast inflation, so getting more out of cash totals. All the Government has been able to do is partially to alleviate a squeeze caused by a pick-up in inflation. Labour MPs should perhaps have given just one rather than three cheers a week ago.

PETER RIDDELL

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RIDGELL ON POLITICS

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Clinton gives backing to Karadzic arrest

SAS takes part in snatch squad plan

FROM MICHAEL EVANS IN MADRID AND TOM WALKER IN BANJA LUKA

PRESIDENT Clinton gave his full backing yesterday for soldiers from the Nato-led peacekeeping force in Bosnia to arrest Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb president, and other indicted war criminals.

However, speaking in Madrid after the end of the Nato summit, he declined to make any comment on reported American plans to send in a special "snatch squad" to detain Dr Karadzic if local community leaders failed to hand him over to the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

He said troops from the Stabilisation Force (Sfor) had a clear mandate to arrest indicted war criminals if they came across them "in the course of their duties".

"Whether they should go beyond that, it would be inappropriate for me to comment."

International sources in Sarajevo and Banja Luka have confirmed the formation of a specialised military snatch squad with the necessary guile and firepower to take Dr Karadzic. It would probably comprise British, French and American troops and equipment, with a heavy SAS involvement.

"It's at an advanced stage."

said one diplomat. "It's being planned at a national level but will need to be executed within an overall Nato context. The British are very involved."

Biljana Plavsic, the president of Republika Srpska, appealed to Nato to arrest Dr Karadzic last week, making final the split between Bosnia's moderate and hardline Serbs. Diplomats admit that her life is now in extreme danger.

According to international sources, Mrs Plavsic made her plea directly to General William Crouch, Bosnia's Nato commander, in a weekend meeting also attended by Michael Steiner, the departing deputy High Representative in Bosnia.

Sources have confirmed that Mrs Plavsic, fearing that Dr Karadzic's secret police were preparing an assault on her presidency building, put out a distress call to Sfor last Friday. British troops surrounded the building until dawn, when the Republika Srpska's elite Krajina Corps, still loyal to Mrs Plavsic, took over.

General George Joulwan, Supreme Allied Commander Europe, who is in overall command of Sfor in Bosnia, hinted yesterday that he



Tony Blair greets President Clinton as he arrives for a ceremony on the last day of the Nato summit in Madrid.

would be prepared to take more decisive action if the mandate was changed. He said the Nato leaders had not given him new orders during the summit, but if they wanted more aggressive action to be taken to arrest Dr Karadzic

and other indicted war criminals "then let them give me the guidance". He said he wanted justice done and for the indicted war criminals to be handed over to the tribunal in The Hague.

General Joulwan, who is

soon to retire, warned the former warring factions in Bosnia not to make any "miscalculations" over Nato's determination to keep the peace in the country.

The American general admitted that the situation in

Bosnia was fast deteriorating. □ Brussels: European Union officials announced that they are suspending aid to Republika Srpska, citing the current political crisis and the country's failure to arrest its war criminals. (AP)

Former Soviet bloc states to be given top nuclear secrets

By MICHAEL EVANS

THE three former members of the Warsaw Pact who are to join Nato in 1999 will be given access to top-secret intelligence, including nuclear targeting details, once they have signed an agreement on exchanging information.

The deal on intelligence is one of five practical steps which will have to be taken by Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic before they can become full members of Nato's military structure.

All fully integrated Nato members have access to the most highly classified intelligence which is marked Cosmic Top Secret. This could include intelligence assessments of the Russian economy.

There are concerns about this aspect of the deal, largely because there are likely to be some links remaining between the intelligence services of these three countries and their old spymasters in Moscow.

A special agreement will have to be drawn up under which the governments of Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary will provide absolute guarantees about the security of all intelligence.

Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary will now also

have to fill in a questionnaire, outlining every aspect of their military capabilities and force structures.

Nato will give the countries a guide which will set certain standards required. This will include a minimum number of frontline air force squadrons, ammunition stocks and training days. Nato will not insist on them buying Western equipment immediately, but they will be required to upgrade old-generation weapons as far as possible.

In due time, all three countries will be expected to replace their ancient Soviet-built combat aircraft and buy or lease Western planes.

The three other practical steps required of the three members-elect are: to change their communications so that they have a secure voice telephone system compatible with the rest of Nato; to agree on their share of Nato's common funding budget; and to sign a declaration that they will not block other countries from joining the alliance.

Yesterday, with all the Nato summit leaders still in Madrid, a special charter was signed with Ukraine which guarantees a new security partnership with the alliance.

Spain casts Britain as the villain over Gibraltar wrangle

DIARIO 16

LOS INGLESES NOS VETAN EN LA OTAN SI NO CEDEMOS EN GIBRALTAR

La pérfida ALBIÓN

One of the furious front pages in Madrid yesterday

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN MADRID

SPANISH newspapers had no doubt yesterday that Britain was the villain of the Nato summit. "Perfidious Albion" was the headline splashed across the mass-circulation *Diario 16*, in an angry reaction to Britain's threat to veto Spanish entry into Nato's military structure.

Even the quality newspapers could not resist an attack on Britain. "It seems totally contrary to correct diplomatic behaviour that Britain's Robin Cook should yesterday talk of

blocking Spain's entry if we do not lift restrictions on air traffic in Gibraltar," *El Pais* said in a leading article.

Mr Cook, the Foreign Secretary, was delighted by the outburst. "At least that shows our message is getting across that there has to be a solution to the Gibraltar problem before Spain can join the integrated military command," a British official said.

Javier Solana, Nato's Secretary-General and a former Spanish Foreign Minister, said he had not raised the issue with Tony Blair. Yesterday Mr Cook and Abel Matutes, the Foreign Minister, agreed that their

Nato ambassadors would resume negotiations over the Rock, "without prejudice" to Spain's claim to sovereignty.

Spanish officials have made clear that the movement of aircraft to Gibraltar through Spanish air space is far more of a constitutional sticking point than visits by warships.

This is because the isthmus between the Rock and the mainland on which the airport is built does not appear to be covered by the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht, which ceded Gibraltar to Britain in perpetuity.

Peter Caruana, Gibraltar's Chief

Minister, held talks with Mr Cook in London immediately before the Nato summit, at which he sought renewed assurances that Britain would not allow Spain to take over responsibility for the Rock.

The Gibraltar obstacle has held up what has otherwise been a triumph of Spanish diplomacy, and reaction is bitter. It had been hoped here that the country would reassert its Nato credentials with a swift entry into the integrated command structure, and Spanish officials warned Britain that a veto would run into strong opposition from all other Nato members.



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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY JULY 10 1997

Mis-selling record condemned

Liddell makes new attack on pension firms

By Gavin Lumsden

HELEN LIDDELL, Economic Secretary, stepped up the Government's onslaught on the pensions industry yesterday when she attacked its 24 leading players for their "extremely disappointing" record in compensating victims of personal pensions mis-selling.

She revealed that only 20,545 out of 432,393 people have actually accepted compensation from their pension providers. Almost twice as many had been excluded from the review altogether. These are people who were wrongly advised to opt out of, or transfer from generous occupational schemes to private pensions between 1989 and 1994. According to figures released by Ms Liddell last month, a further 1.5 million people may have also been victims of mis-selling.

Yesterday it emerged the worst offenders were Hogg Robinson and Colonial who have resolved less than 1 per cent of their cases. However, larger household names have done little better. Allied Dunbar, Abbey Life and Sedgwick, which along with Legal & General was "named and shamed" for its attitude to the review last month, have settled only 1 per cent of their cases. By the end of June, the Co-op had resolved only 2 per cent of its 41,762 cases while the Prudential, the largest pension provider, had finished just 5 per cent.

The poor figures mean some companies could fail to meet the first deadline set by their



Company	Cases resolved	Cases excluded	% resolved
Hogg Robinson	882	32	1
Colonial	8,754	32	1
Sedgwick	8,751	84	1
Abbey Life	15,983	188	1
Allied Dunbar	18,428	188	1
Co-op Insurance	41,762	328	2
Prudential	39,806	3,128	5
Barclays Life	18,700	2,815	14

regulator, the Personal Investment Authority, and could be liable to large fines, although most were confident they could meet it.

In May the PIA instructed pension companies to settle 90 per cent of their priority cases by the end of the year, although some have earlier dates. Abbey Life and Ganlock, particularly weak, however, with few cases in the pipeline. The former has made offers of compensation to just 238 of the 15,993 cases but said it would meet the target. Ganlock has approached just 79 of its 8,358 potential victims.

Ms Liddell said: "All 24 companies have performed badly. The number of offers made is very small, while the number of those who have accepted offers is even less. However, a very substantial number have been excluded. Some will have been left out legitimately, but I can't believe that tens of thousands of cases can all have been legitimately excluded."

Legal & General, which criticised Ms Liddell's approach to the mis-selling scan-

dal soon after the general election, excluded the highest number of cases. It has rejected 12,147 potential victims of mis-selling from its compensation process, over a third of the number it originally considered. A spokesman said the company had cast a wide net in order to include as many people in the review as possible. Many had not fit within the review's parameters because they had been self-employed, not had access to a company scheme or had been sold a personal pension by an independent financial adviser.

Ms Liddell is to publish the progress figures sent to her by the pension companies every month. She will decide if further sanctions are necessary in September or October. Rob Garnsworthy, managing director of Colonial, said: "I don't think it is an issue to get emotional about. The issues are simple—you have an agreed target, are you going to make it? There is no doubt that we are going to. Whether hitting the industry over the head every month is a useful way of going about it is another matter."

Ms Liddell defended the Government's abolition of the dividend tax credits even though the move will deprive pension funds of around £3.5 billion a year and could even delay the pensions review. She said it was a distortion and meant that victims of mis-selling who had not received the pensions they had expected were in effect subsidising the industry that had failed them.

Commentary, page 29



Bright picture: John Clare says sales at Dixons have been focused on more expensive items

Crown Estate chief issues warning of overheating risk

By Carl Mortimer

CHRIS HOWES, chief executive and second commissioner of the Crown Estate, gave warning that the commercial property market risks overheating as he announced that the Crown Estate's revenue surplus had risen above £100 million for the first time.

The Crown Estate's huge portfolio, which includes Regent Street, Windsor Great Park and Nash terraces in Regent's Park, rose in value by 15 per cent, to £2.5 billion. Mr Howes said the portfolio was now above its pre-recession level in 1990, when profits were only £55 million.

However, he said: "Investor demand to buy property is stronger than the demand for people to occupy it. It is an early sign of disequilibrium. I can see the lemmings on the move."

Mr Howes said that the Budget had increased demand from commercial property investors, particularly pension funds seeking higher yields, but he expressed concern that interest rates would rise as property yields fell.

The Crown Estate's central London properties had seen the highest increases, with Regent Street's valuation up 17 per cent over the past year, he said. Some £80 million was spent on the portfolio last year, buying in leases and refurbishing properties on Regent Street, including the redevelopment of Heddon Street, acquired in 1993, for leisure occupation. The cul-de-sac off Regent Street now includes the Zinc Bar, a Sir Terence Conran venture, and Momo, a restaurant used for Madonna's birthday party.

The West End and Regent's

Park account for almost £1.2 billion of the £2.5 billion portfolio. Outside London, the Crown Estate's portfolio is worth £379 million and includes offices and shopping centres. Two retail parks were bought last year, but Mr Howes said the Estate would not chase developments.

The Crown Estate is not the Queen's personal property. Profits — £102.9 million last year, against £94.5 million the previous year — go to the Treasury, and, in exchange, the Monarch receives the Civil List, under an arrangement begun in 1760.

In addition to the commercial portfolio, estate assets include 2,500 houses and 2,735 miles of foreshore.

Sainsbury's shares and sales bounce

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES of J Sainsbury rose strongly yesterday as the supermarket group said its stores had enjoyed underlying sales growth of 4.2 per cent in the first quarter.

Its shares, which lost 12 per cent of their value after the January profits warning, gained 11½p to 399½p — just short of their 1997 high.

This came in spite of downgrades in profit forecasts. Analysts are concerned that David Sainsbury, chairman, forecast that like-for-like sales growth was unlikely to exceed 2 per cent this year.

Shares of Tesco and Marks & Spencer also rose by some 2 per cent. Analysts said the increase was down to institutions seeking refuge from companies affected by the strong pound.

Dixons sales soar 17% on back of windfall payouts

By Sarah Cunningham and Alasdair Murray

DIXONS has enjoyed a boom in sales as consumers rush to cash in their windfall payouts on top-of-the-range electrical goods. The retailer said like-for-like sales have leapt 17 per cent in the first nine weeks of this year, with more than half of the increase directly attributable to people spending their windfall money.

Robert Shaper, finance director, said: "The day the cheque hits, sales go up." John Clare, chief executive, said sales are focused on more expensive items such as personal computers, televisions and large domestic appliances, with people spending from £300 to more than £1,000.

The first hard evidence of the impact of windfall payouts on high street sales provides food for thought for the Bank of

England's monetary policy committee, which concludes its monthly policy meeting today. The consensus in the City is that the Bank will raise interest rates by a quarter point to 6.75 per cent to try to cool consumer spending. But some economists called for a half-point rise to help to stop a further rise in the pound as the market bets on more interest rate rises.

The pound yesterday touched a new six-year high against the German mark of DM2.9790 before slipping slightly to close unchanged from the previous day at DM2.9695. The stock market recovered from Tuesday's 50-point fall to register a small gain. The FTSE 100 index closed up 3.9 points at 4,762.4. Shares in Dixons jumped

nearly 9 per cent to 536½p after the strong figures, which also boosted shares in other retailing stocks. The company said its total sales were up 32 per cent, although it said that it is unlikely to keep up this level of sales growth for the rest of the year. In contrast, like-for-like sales rose only 8 per cent during the whole of last year.

The recent sales surge amazed analysts. John Richards of NatWest Markets described the figures as "phenomenal", while Mark Joseph of Panmure Gordon said: "No one was expecting double digit figures." NatWest raised its forecast for the current year from £220 million to £236 million while Panmure Gordon's figure went from £219 million to £233 million.

Mr Clare announced a sharp rise in pre-tax profit from £135.2 million to £190.2 million for the 33 weeks to May 3. Exceptional items included a gain of £19 million on disposal of 40 per cent of The Link and a charge of £9 million for the cost of ensuring that the group's computer systems are able to cope with the arrival of the year 2000.

Earnings per share were 29.4p (27.7p) and there is a final dividend of 8.1p (6.7p), making a total of 10.5p (8.75p). The company plans to spend £100 million in the current year, opening 35 new Curry's superstores, 12 new PC World superstores and at least 40 The Link mobile phone stores. Around 3,000 jobs should be created.

Windfall boom, page 29
Market report, page 30
Temper, page 30

French police question Soros assistants

By Ben Macintyre in Paris and Jason Nisse

TWO senior assistants to George Soros, the billionaire trader, have been questioned as part of a French police investigation into insider trading in Eurotunnel shares.

The two were questioned on Tuesday in New York by US officials working in conjunction with the French police, who are interested in Soros Fund Management's trading in Eurotunnel shares ahead of its £85 million rights issue three years ago.

The Soros Fund, which made more than £1 billion betting that the pound would leave the ERM in 1992, has also given documents to the French investigators.

Judge Dominique de Talancé, the Paris investigative magistrate, this week sent police from France's financial investigations division to New York, but they are unlikely to demand that Mr Soros be interviewed. Shaun Pattison, an official of Soros Fund, said: "We have provided whatever assistance was required. Our trading in Eurotunnel shares was completely appropriate and legal in all respects."

In July 1995 the French authorities launched an inquiry into the trading that took place before Eurotunnel's May 1994 rights issue, which was preceded by a steep drop in share price. The Serious Fraud Office has been helping the investigation and a number of UK-based banks have been interviewed.

The Commission des Opérations de Bourse, the regulator of the Paris exchange, has identified a number of banks and brokers that sold Eurotunnel shares they did not own before the rights issue and made substantial profits by buying shares when they fell subsequently.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4762.4	(+3.9)
Nikkei	3,482	(+0.62)
DAX	2238.64	(+0.62)
Nikkei	19697.17	(-156.72)
New York	7831.32	(-30.99)
Dow Jones	193.93	(-1.40)
S&P Composite	916.15	(-2.60)

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/4%	(5 1/4%)
Long Bond	100 1/8%	(100 1/8%)
Yield	8.57%	(8.58%)

LONDON MONEY

3-month Libor	9 1/4%	(9 1/4%)
6-month Libor	9 1/4%	(9 1/4%)
12-month Libor	11 1/4%	(11 1/4%)

STERLING

New York	1.6840	(1.6870)
London	1.6855	(1.6911)
DM	2.9686	(2.9715)
FF	10.0270	(10.0250)
¥	2.4672	(2.4771)
₹	118.97	(118.40)
₹ Index	104.1	(104.2)

US DOLLAR

London	1.7810	(1.7822)
DM	6.9470	(6.9435)
FF	1.4630	(1.4635)
₹	118.97	(118.17)
₹ Index	102.3	(102.2)

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Sep)	£18.25	(£18.45)
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GOLD

London close	£318.15	(£321.15)
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* denotes midday trading price

Defence idea

British Aerospace yesterday outlined its plans for the European defence industry to the French. BAe told a French parliamentary commission that the first step was to make a single company out of BAe, Dassault and Aerospatiale-Dassault. Page 28

Threat denied

THE London stock and futures exchanges denied that new co-operation agreements between bourses on the Continent posed a threat to the City's dominant position. Page 32

At last the South of France has the wine to match its women and song.

Not until 1992 did the famous nymphs and chateaux of the Midi have a local wine to complement their chic. It was fresh and spicy, yet stylish and refined - but could anything so good say as good? In fact, say the critics, it got better as James Herrick refined his blend of New World technology and Old World know-how in Languedoc vineyards first used by the Romans. The result, this year, is a triumph: a wine good enough to provoke an impromptu rendering of *Sur le pont d'Avignon*.

James Herrick
CHARDONNAY
1996
VINO DE PAYS D'OC

AVAILABLE COUNTRYWIDE FROM ASPIA, BARNESLEY WINE, BOTTLES UP
THE COUNTRY IN NORTH, ELPHINSTONE, EUROPA, FULLER, HARRISONS, JORDAN,
JUNNEL, LILLAS, SAINSBURY, SAFETY, SHERFIELD, SPAR, TESCO, TULLOCH,
UNION, VINTAGE WINE, WATSON, WINE CELLAR, WINE RACK, WYNKHOUSE.

Genetic testing under scrutiny

By MARIANNE CURPHEY
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

INSURERS have been asked by the Human Genetics Advisory Commission (HGAC) to give details of how they use genetic test results when assessing the life expectancy of clients.

The two-month consultation will invite a broad range of opinion within the industry on how tests are interpreted when customers apply for endowments, mortgage protection policies and personal pensions. The question of confidentiality and security will also be raised.

In February the Association of British Insurers ruled that people applying for life insurance would be required to disclose if they had taken genetic tests to predict whether they were at risk of inherited disease.

However, the ABI said there would be a two-year moratorium during which test results would not be used against applicants for life policies linked to mortgages up to £100,000. No one would be compelled to take a genetic test.

There have been fears that insurance companies could require clients to submit to tests and could raise premiums for those found to have genes predisposing to illness. The HGAC said it intended to produce a report which will be submitted to ministers and published before the end of the year.

Standard Life has been outspoken in its opposition to tests and has given warning that they could be used as an excuse for refusing cover or making it prohibitively expensive.

Peter Robertson, of Standard Life, yesterday said: "It is very difficult to make assessments of life expectancy based on genetic results, since each one of us has defective genes. People should be encouraged, rather than feel threatened, to take tests so that the population as a whole becomes healthier in the long run."



Derek Finlay, left, chairman of Dawson International, the textiles company that owns the Pringle brand, told yesterday's annual meeting that order books in both Britain and America are in good shape, although the strength of the pound is curtailing sales to key export markets. Also pictured is Gavin Hastings, the rugby player, wearing clothes from Pringle's autumn range. Dawson International shares slipped 1p to 68½p.

Bae outlines plans for European consolidation

By OLIVER AUGUST

BRITISH AEROSPACE has unveiled its game plan for the consolidation of the European defence industry.

John Weston, managing director of the Bae defence arm, told a French parliamentary commission that the first step is to make a single defence company out of Bae, Dasa of Germany and Aerospatiale-Dassault, the two partly state-owned French groups. His aim was to try to encourage the new French Government towards privatisation.

Although Mr Weston said a merger of these four is "the strict minimum to create a European company", analysts believe any deal is years away. Consolidation of the European defence industry has been made more urgent by

last week's \$11.6 billion (£6.9 billion) US merger of Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman, which will create the world's largest defence group. Mr Weston's blueprint would move on from linking British Aerospace with the French and German companies towards the integration of Italian, Spanish and Swedish companies. These include Alenia, Casa and Saab.

Mr Weston spoke to the committee behind closed doors on Tuesday in an effort to encourage the French Government to privatise its defence interests. Bae is strongly opposed to mergers with state-owned enterprises. He said the French state's 100 per cent stake in Aerospatiale and 50 per cent stake in Dassault,

which are scheduled to merge, are an obstacle to consolidation.

He said: "It would be very difficult for the management of Bae to propose to their shareholders to exchange the control of 100 per cent of their company against a fraction of a European company in which a state would have a major stake."

Mr Weston warned against attempting a multiple merger of five or six companies at the same time, but he said a fast step-by-step approach was possible. He proposed the creation of a shell company in which the partners would have a stake and to which they would transfer assets at a later stage. Bae is strongly committed to forming pan-European businesses in aerospace and defence, said Mr Weston. He denied that Bae is considering pulling out of Airbus, the consortium in which it holds a 20 per cent stake.

He also denied that the group had a preference for a transatlantic link-up instead of a European one. Insiders have said that the recent Bae agreement with Lockheed to co-operate on the \$170 billion Joint Strike Fighter project is part of a new strategic alliance with the US group.

Sash Tusa, of UBS, said: "We could see Dassault and Aerospatiale privatisation within the next 12 to 18 months, but that is likely to be partial privatisation. We are still a long time away from the formation of a single European defence company."

TUC head says new law will need help

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

JOHN MONKS, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, has warned unions that they must be ready to do a deal with business if they wish to gain workplace recognition and boost membership.

Mr Monks last night said that unions would have to satisfy four genuine concerns of employers if the Government's plans on union recognition were to work in practice.

Speaking in Liverpool at the annual dinner of the North West CBI, Mr Monks set out the unions' four pledges on recognition:

□ Recognition proposals must be simple, and based mainly on the UK's voluntary traditions. Ministers claim that the TUC's own proposals are too complicated.

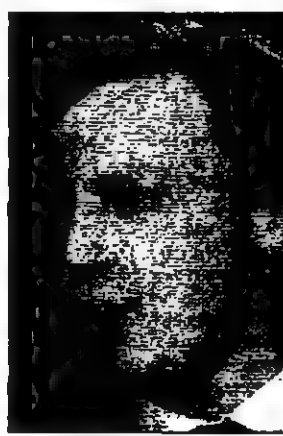
□ Statutory recognition must not give rise to inter-union conflict. Mr Monks said: "We will not maintain public support for these rights if they lead to many unions chasing the same group of workers."

He gave support to single-union deals.

□ The definition of the "relevant workforce" to be granted recognition had to be clear.

□ Although the law on recognition must be capable of enforcement, Mr Monks rejected inappropriate sanctions against employers.

Labour did not include in its legislative programme for the current parliamentary session its plans to introduce a legal right for unions to be recognised by employers if a majority of the workforce wants it, but Ministers insist privately that proposals will be included in the next Queen's Speech.



Monks: warned unions

British Coal proceeds at £1.3bn

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH COAL last year lifted the proceeds from privatisation to £1.3 billion with sales of property and two fund management businesses totalling £143 million.

The sales, which British Coal will not detail separately, are outlined in the last set of accounts from the organisation which next year will be dissolved. Last year British Coal sold CINMan, the miners' pension scheme management operation, and CINProp, the property asset managers for the mining pension scheme, along with a variety of property and agricultural land interests.

The accounts for the year to March 31 revealed that Philip Hutchinson, the former director of legal affairs who became chairman this month, received a performance-related bonus of £19,800, for ensuring that asset sales took place on time, down from £23,760. His salary increased from £96,000 to £99,000 while that of Neil Clarke, the chairman and only other executive member, fell from £217,500 to £112,500 as he moved to part-time working. Mr Clarke retired last month.

A date has still to be set for full dissolution of the organisation.

Former banker posts bail in Hong Kong

KEVIN WALLACE, a former private banking star at Merrill Lynch, posted bail of more than HK\$1 million (£76,603) after he was detained earlier this week, police said yesterday. The sum included bail of HK\$100,000 in cash and HK\$1 million in a personal guarantee. Police said no charges had been filed and Mr Wallace must report to them again on July 16.

The 46-year-old American was arrested on Monday night, along with an unidentified Chinese man, and released on Tuesday. Police declined to say why Mr Wallace was arrested. Merrill Lynch International started civil proceedings against Mr Wallace last month in Singapore and Hong Kong. It also filed a criminal complaint in Singapore. Merrill Lynch accused Mr Wallace of engaging in "unauthorised trading, misrepresenting or falsifying private clients' statements and forging client signatures". Mr Wallace was employed by Merrill Lynch from late 1991 until he was dismissed on May 15 this year.

Marling in the red

MARLING INDUSTRIES, the seatbelt and industrial webbing group, plunged into the red with a loss of £5.2 million in the 12 months to March 31, compared with a profit of £5.1 million a year earlier. This was mainly due to a loss on the sale of its Muller Elastics subsidiary. Earnings per share fell from 1.91p to 0.26p. The company is cutting its dividend payments, with a final dividend of 0.12p giving a full-year payout of 0.24p (0.85p).

Pyramid sales attacked

THE International Chamber of Commerce has urged governments in Eastern and Central Europe and the former Soviet republics to clamp down on pyramid sales of life and accident insurance policies. It said a small number of sales agencies, usually based in Western Europe, were using pyramid sales on an unlicensed basis in the new market economies to distribute policies of Western European insurers, so exploiting inconsistent law and enforcement in Eastern and Central Europe.

US merger support

THE US Government stood firm in its support for the proposed merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas yesterday, amid fears that European Commission opposition could spark a transatlantic trade war. During a visit to London, William Daley, the US Secretary of Commerce, said: "We believe the merger is good for the companies, the industry and its customers around the world." He would not say whether the US would recognise any European Commission action.

Mittal plans flotation

LAKSHMI MITTAL, one of Britain's wealthiest businessmen who made a fortune out of turning around loss-making steel companies worldwide, is planning a \$2.8 billion (£1.6 billion) stock market flotation. Sources close to the issue said that Indian-born Mittal, 47, plans to raise about \$450 million by selling some 16 per cent control in his family-owned Ispat International group which will be listed on the New York and Amsterdam Stock Exchanges.

MAID in F&S deal

MAID, the online business information group, has joined forces with Foster & Sullivan, the world's fourth largest market research company, to launch a new series of business reports on 700 sectors. The two will split the profits from the reports, which will only be available on MAID's internet-based system. The deal is intended to strengthen the company's hand against Reuters. MAID's shares rose 17½p to 172½p. *Tempest, page 30*

BWD Securities ahead

BWD SECURITIES, the investment manager, yesterday announced pre-tax profits of £1.5 million for the six months to May 31, up from £1.3 million previously. Turnover improved from £7.8 million to £8.5 million, while funds under management at BWD Rensburg increased from £1 billion to £1.3 billion. An interim dividend of 2.2p (2p) is due to be paid on October 1. The payout is from earnings per share that rose to 5p from 4.4p.

Eaton-Dana agreement

EATON CORP has signed a definitive agreement with Dana Corp, whereby Eaton will purchase Dana's worldwide clutch business for \$180 million (£107 million) and Dana will purchase Eaton's worldwide axle and brake business, including Eaton's forging operation in Marion, Ohio, for \$287 million. Eaton said the transactions are for cash and the agreements are subject to the due diligence process and normal governmental approvals.

Wells Fargo shares fall

SHARES in Wells Fargo, America's eighth-largest bank, fell sharply after the bank said its second-quarter earnings will be well below Wall Street expectations. The shares lost \$18 (£10.70) to \$261 on the New York Stock Exchange after a brief trading halt prompted by the company's announcement that its earnings per share would be about \$1 below analysts' forecasts of \$3.53. The company will report its second-quarter earnings on Tuesday.

Zeneca to boost capacity

ZENECA, the pharmaceuticals company, is to invest £31 million at its Macclesfield site to provide further manufacturing capacity for Zoladex, the prostate and breast cancer treatment. The investment will be used to build a new plant, adding to existing capacity and capable of manufacturing 3.6mg and 10.8mg units of the drug. The company said the new facility is expected to be operational in 2000, adding that an unspecified number of permanent jobs will be created.

Vodafone and Cellnet link-ups to fall in August

BT cuts mobile call costs

By ERIC REGULY

BRITISH TELECOM yesterday dropped the prices of calls made to Vodafone and Cellnet, the two largest mobile phone companies, and said more reductions will follow later this year.

Starting August 7, BT customers will pay 2.6 per cent less for calls made to the Cellnet and Vodafone networks during the day, 12 per cent less in the evening and 16 per cent less at the weekend. The new daytime rate is 36.5p a minute, compared with the previous 37.5p.

The reductions are the re-

sult of new agreements by Vodafone and Cellnet, which is 60 per cent owned by BT, to reduce the prices they charge BT to complete calls on their networks. BT said it is passing almost all of the savings to its customers.

Additional cuts are to be implemented this year, partly because of pressure from Ofcom, the phone regulator, to narrow the high price difference between fixed line and mobile phone calls.

Calls made to Orange and One2One, the two smallest mobile phone companies, are

still less expensive. The daytime rate for calls made to Orange and One2One is 30p a minute.

Lehman Brothers, the securities firm, has reduced its earnings forecasts for BT by about 10 per cent since the Chancellor's announcement in the Budget that he is to abolish dividend tax credits.

Lehman now expects BT to report pre-tax profits of 33.2p a share, down from the previous estimate of 36p, in the year to March 1998, and 32.8p, down from 36.4p, in the following year.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.37	2.19
Austria Sch	21.87	20.1
Belgium Fr	66.44	69.48
Canada C	2.437	2.298
Cyprus Cyp£	0.816	0.845
Denmark Kr	11.86	11.20
Finland Mk	6.26	5.93
France Fr	10.4	10.2
Germany Dm	3.13	2.88
Greece Dr	482	453
Hong Kong \$	13.82	12.62
Iceland Iskr	127	107
Ireland Ir£	1.16	1.07
Israel Sh	6.29	5.84
Italy Lit	3096	2832
Japan Yen	205.03	187.50
Netherlands Gld	0.686	0.627
New Zealand \$	3.253	3.238
Norway Kr	12.96	12.42
Portugal Esc	312.05	282.0
S Africa R	8.40	7.44
Spain Ptas	202.29	245.80
Sweden Kr	13.82	12.72
Switzerland Fr	2.81	2.60
Turkey Lira	394.825	244.97
USA \$	1.789	1.648

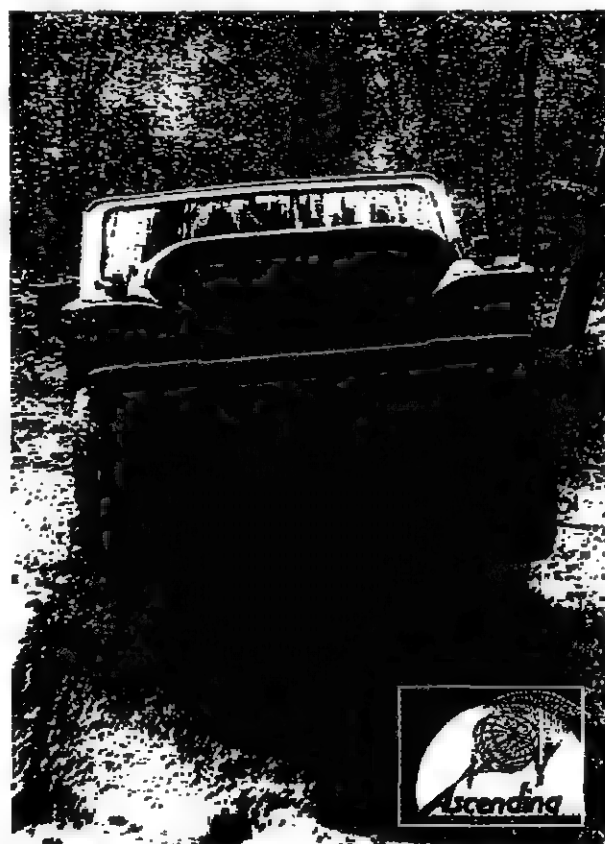
Notes: For small denomination bank notes only as accepted by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

50% off adventure sports

The Times offers you a selection of adventure sports throughout Britain this summer with discounts of 50 per cent off normal prices. You can choose from more than 15 activities anytime before September 30, 1997, subject to availability. Collect four tokens, attach them to a voucher, and book your visit in advance with the relevant company. When you make your payment, send your voucher and tokens to validate your discount. Readers are responsible for taking out their own holiday and accident insurance cover.

FREE SCUBA DIVE

You can have a free try-dive with the British Sub-Aqua Club (normally £15) between Aug 11-17. Present four differently numbered tokens when you take your dive and call 0500 947 202 for your nearest teaching pool.



ADVENTURE SPORTS VOUCHER

Send this form with the necessary number of differently numbered tokens to the address of the adventure sport you want to take up.

Mr/Ms/Ms/Ms Initial

Surname

Address

Postcode

Day Tel

Evenings

If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from organisations carefully selected by The Times, please tick ☐

TOMORROW: DETAILS OF ADRENALINE-PUMPING GO-KARTING

CHANGING TIMES

مكتبة الأمل

Burton divides and rules



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

The bounce in Burton Group shares on the back of its demerger plans will have generated a few shivers of discomfort in other boardrooms. If a strategy of dividing itself into two simple businesses can instantly add almost ten per cent to Burton's value, investors will be tempted to find other candidates for self-division.

Is Kingfisher, for instance, worth more than the sum of its half dozen different businesses? Sir Geoff Mulcahy has posed the question himself over the years, and his chums at McKinsey have generally been able to come up with a comfortably affirmative response. If they were forced to do the sums again today, they might find demerger beginning to look a more attractive option.

Splitting up is not a guaranteed route to enhancing value, as Lord Hanson has demonstrated with his four-way carve-up of the business he created. But his former adversaries at ICI provided ample evidence that demerger can be highly profitable when they carved glamorous Zeneca out of the dull chemical company.

The question is what value the centre can provide in a group structure. At Burton, John Hoerner has decided that his businesses have no need of a group chief executive, and he is exiting head office to actually run a company. Although he is not taking a pay cut, the move is not one other corporate kings are

likely to relish. At Kingfisher, Sir Geoff has fought back hard since the dark days of a couple of years ago and rebuilt the business into a group in which the individual companies are gathering strength. The irony is that his very success in strengthening the management in the operating companies means that they are probably now strong enough to float free from the group structure.

The cover of Kingfisher's last glossy annual report proclaimed the message: "Building shareholder value by making the customer king". If the share-buying customer perceives more value in a series of tightly focused companies than in a wide-ranging retail group, then demerger may be what is required.

Sears has already, belatedly, admitted as much with its decision to float Selfridges, although it is still not rushing to bring relief to its long-suffering shareholders.

Storehouse might be prevailed upon to follow. Sir Terence Conran's dream of putting British Home Stores and Mothercare into a retail super-group along with his Habitat has long crumbled. Now it could be argued that there should be a

final divorce of those two businesses. An independent Mothercare might stand more chance of regaining its former glories than it has done under the umbrella of an organisation which also shelters a would-be competitor: BHS does sell children's clothes too.

Cannibalisation is not an attractive concept. Its damaging effects are all too clear at WH Smith, another group where dismemberment must eventually be considered.

Little guy suffers in the switch to Fids

Allied Domecq and EMI yesterday kick-started what will soon become a common trend by deciding to pay foreign income dividends, or Fids as they are unlovingly known. Both companies have moved swiftly to make Fids of their payments because of the

tax changes in last week's Budget. Although this should make no difference to the net dividend, personal equity plan investors and charities will lose out.

In simple terms, it no longer makes sense for many international companies to pay conventional dividends. This is because the pension funds, who typically own the majority of their shares, can no longer claim back the associated 20 per cent tax credit. Companies that pay dividends from their foreign profits often cannot recover all of their advance corporation tax if they pay conventional dividends — and it was this problem that Norman Lamont sought to address with his invention of Fids. However, unrelieved ACT was a trivial concern all the time the pension funds could claim their extra 20 per cent. Now that they can no longer do so, it makes no immediate difference to them whether they receive a Fid or a conventional dividend. In the

long term, all investors should benefit if companies can cut the size of their ACT problem and avoid the need for write-offs.

Fine, except there is no long term where Fids are concerned, because Gordon Brown intends to abolish them in 1999. Unfortunately, the Treasury failed to realise that this could prompt SmithKline Beecham, Rio Tinto and every other international earner to decamp to Bermuda to avoid being taxed twice on the same profits. This necessitated last week's embarrassing climb-down from Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General — the net effect of which is that we don't know what will follow Fids.

However, the Chancellor's hasty move has once again hit the little guys — Peps and charities. These were spared an immediate loss of tax credit on conventional dividends. But they will still lose out if leading companies switch to Fids for the next two years, because there is no rebate avail-

able on them. Of course, it goes without saying that leading British companies with large international earnings are exactly the shares to be found in the portfolios of Peps and charities.

The worry that corporate taxation is becoming far too complicated. This may be great for tax lawyers, but it is bad news for everyone else.

Insurers fail to reassure

The behaviour of the insurance companies in the personal pension review continues to mystify. Perhaps they believe that there is no such thing as bad publicity, and that the linking of their names with injustice to existing customers will not affect their ability to win new ones. Or perhaps they suspect that they have no reputation left to lose. Do they not fear the sanctions that the Economic Secretary can take against them? Or have their lawyers advised them that, although the minister can temporarily withdraw a financial firm's authorisation to do business, endless legal challenges can be mounted to delay such a step?

As their excuse for their bad marks, the insurers did not plead that Gordon Brown's abolition of the dividend tax credit, with its impact on the value of pensions, had forced them to rethink their compensation figures. They are obviously saving this one up for next month's report.

Instead their new solution to minimise the problem is to decrease the numbers who are eligible for payouts, a neat trick, but not entirely convincing. Overnight the insurers have discovered that thousands of customers were properly sold personal pensions after all. Legal & General has alone reclassified some 12,000 individuals. This approach suggests that the companies were not rigorous enough in their earlier calculations of appropriate cases for compensation and that little faith can be placed in either their procedures, or their will to make amends.

Bae takes a flier

IT was somewhat optimistic of British Aerospace to lay its wishlist before a bunch of French politicians. They may have listened politely, but after the way that GEC's advances to takeover Thomson were rebuffed, it is hard to imagine that the French will be more inclined towards privatising their defence industry in order to fit with BAE's view of the future. The Bae effort might be more productively directed to talking to GEC.

New Co-op Bank chief to steer CWS shake-up

By CAROLINE MERRELL AND JASON NISSE

THE Co-operative Wholesale Society, which recently saw off an £1.2 billion attempt to take it over, is to turn to the highly successful Co-operative Bank in an attempt to shake up the sleepy organisation.

As part of a review of its financial services operation, CWS has appointed a financial services management consultant to replace Terry Thomas, the current chief executive of the bank, who is

retiring later this year. One of the first tasks of Mervyn Pedley, who replaces Mr Thomas, will be to review how the bank can be more closely integrated with the CWS group, which includes 700 Co-op retail stores.

During the recent failed takeover attempt by Galileo, the consortium led by Andrew Regan, CWS came under fire for not exploiting the synergies between the retail

and the banking parts of the business sufficiently. A CWS spokesman said Mr Pedley would also become a member of the CWS executive.

This is the first time that a chief executive of the bank has had a position on the CWS executive. Mr Pedley said: "We already offer banking services through our stores, but we want to build on this."

He said it was too early to say what his plans for the bank, but said: "We think there are great opportunities in closer links between the retail side and the financial services side." He said he had no plans to change the bank's much publicised stance on ethical and green issues, which was pioneered by Mr Thomas.

Mr Pedley is currently a partner in the L&K Partnership, a leading international firm of management consultants, before that he was finance director of the TSB banking and insurance businesses and then chief executive of commercial operations for the TSB Group.

Alan Prescott, CWS deputy chief executive, said: "Terry Thomas has made a major contribution to the bank and will leave it in excellent shape."

The Co-op Bank's performance was the only bright spark when CWS delivered poor results in April, at a time when it still looked likely that Galileo was to mount a £1.2 billion bid for the 257-year-old organisation. Co-op Bank showed a 21 per cent increase in trading profits while the CWS group as a whole suffered a £10 million drop in profits, before tax and distribution to members, to £68.2 million.

Graham Melmott, CWS's chief executive, admitted the figures were poor and that the group needed fresh ideas.

However a few days later CWS fired its retail director, Allan Green, when it emerged he had passed confidential documents to Mr Green, a transaction which investigators for CWS had caught on video.

Mr Green has since been charged with theft and Mr Regan, and his colleague, David Lyons, with handling stolen goods.

British Biotech shares hurt by drug delay fears

By PAUL DURMAN

SHARES in British Biotech, the largest of the UK's emerging biopharmaceutical companies, dropped sharply yesterday because of concern about possible delays in the development of its first two drugs.

Some analysts were disappointed to hear that the first results of British Biotech's phase III trial of Marimastat, its highly promising cancer drug, will not be available until 1999. The company has also suffered a setback with Zactox, the pancreatitis drug that it hopes to launch in Europe early next year. It has been advised to increase the size of phase 3 trials in the US from 450 to 1,500 patients, which will delay the results.

The shares fell from 201p to the day's low of 173p, before rallying to 185p. At that price, the company, which yesterday reported an increased annual loss of £28.9 million (£25.2 million), is worth £1.2 billion.

British Biotech declared that "overall, the company's portfolio of drugs is progressing well". It intends to begin human trials of two more drugs in the next six months, one a treatment for multiple sclerosis, the other a treatment for thrombosis.

Keith McCullagh, chief

executive, said: "Development of Marimastat is proceeding on target and preparations for a potential European launch of Zactox in 1998 are also well in hand."

The company has appointed Malcolm Fallois as its finance director. Mr Fallois, who was previously finance director at BT's personal communications business, replaces James Noble.

British Biotech ended its financial year in April with £183 million in cash. The company has been beefing up its management team ahead of the launch of Zactox, and its administrative expenditure rose, steeply from £6.7 million to £11.7 million. Research and development spending also rose, from £29.1 million to £36.3 million. The company raised £143 million through a rights issue a year ago. It also received two milestone payments during the year: £4.4 million from Tanabe Seiyaku, which has the rights to develop and market Marimastat in Japan, and £4 million from Glaxo Wellcome, which is developing an arthritis drug under licence.

Tempus, page 30



Hilary Cropper and David Best, finance director, of FI Group, where profits surged

FI plans Indian merger

By FRASER NELSON

FI GROUP, the computer services company, is considering merging with an Indian computer company to establish a supply of low-cost programmers to cope with demand from British clients.

The company, whose chief executive is Hilary Cropper, was originally planning to announce a joint venture this summer, but has since rethought its strategy and is now looking at more formal

ties with an Indian software house.

It has already set up three British applications management centres in the design it intends to use in India, and is ready to transfer work to offshore programmers without any disruption.

Tricia Gandom, marketing director, said: "We are ready to go. Our applications management centres are already running the systems as if they

were a thousand miles away from the client."

After winning a series of multimillion pound contracts from Barclays Bank, Whitbread and Sainsbury's, pre-tax profits grew from £3.76 million to £6.58 million in the year to April 30 on sales up 25 per cent at £98.8 million. Earnings rose from 8.2p to 14.8p a share. The dividend rises to 5.1p (4.1p) with a final 3.4p due October 1.

Shares in the Woolwich fall for third day

By CAROLINE MERRELL

WOOLWICH shares fell for the third consecutive day yesterday, losing 6p to close at 295p.

The price of the Woolwich has now fallen nearly 20 per cent since its peak of 308p on the first day of trading. Yesterday's fall is certain to further erode some of the 30 per cent or so of Woolwich savers and borrowers who opted for share certificates. Many are still waiting for the certificates to arrive. Until they do, they will be unable to deal.

The fall will also anger some Woolwich shareholders who have not yet received their share entitlement because of computer problems. The glitches are believed to surround the transfer of information concerning tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas).

The Woolwich said: "Everyone who is eligible for shares will receive them. If there is anyone out there who believes they could be eligible, then they should contact us." Around 12 per cent of the

shares were unclaimed when the society floated on Monday. The Woolwich, yesterday said, it was not planning to compensate those who could have lost out because of the computer bungle. It added that each case would have to be considered on its merits, and denied that the figure for those who had not yet received their share allocation was as high as 300,000.

The average price of shares in the second of four auctions to sell off the holdings of those who wished to sell immediately was 292p. Shareholders will get the average price from all auctions. The highest bid was 303p while the lowest was 287p. There have been suggestions in the market that institutional investors have been driving down the price of Woolwich shares in the hope of picking them up cheaply now. When the former building society joins the FTSE 100 index in September many tracker funds will need to buy the shares.

OFT's study of Bupa bid is extended

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

BUPA, the private healthcare provider, says that it sees "no reason" why its £77 million bid for Goldborough Healthcare should be blocked by the Office of Fair Trading. The comments came after the OFT announced yesterday that it was extending its period for inquiry into the deal by 15 working days, to August 5.

Observers said that the extension was an indication of how seriously the new Government took healthcare. Ministers are believed to be particularly concerned about the domination of the UK private healthcare market by just a few players.

Paul Saper, an analyst with Laing & Buisson, said that the problem was that Bupa was both a provider of healthcare, via its private hospital network, and a purchaser of care. "There is a strong lobby which complains that the current rationalisation taking place in the market is threatening business competition," he said.

Domecq to sell wine businesses

ALLIED DOMECQ, the drinks group, has sold two of its French wine businesses to a group of investors backed by 31, the venture capital group, for about £15 million. Leading the investors is Jack Drounau, former managing director of Seagram's Marnell business.

The sale of J Calvet & Cie of Bordeaux and J Morsau Fils of Chablis was in line with a strategy of "focusing resources behind a range of core international brands", Allied said.

The company also gave further details of plans to create up to 4,000 jobs, more than half of them full-time, as part of a £150 million development programme in the next financial year. The expansion will go mainly into adding 140 units to its leading pub concepts.

City Diary, page 31

Windfall boom boosts UK say shops

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM AND PENNY STANIASZEK

THE theory that the current consumer boom — fuelled by £30 billion of building society and insurance company windfalls — is merely putting cash into the pockets of foreign manufacturers was challenged yesterday.

According to John Clare, chief executive of Dixons, more than half the electronics goods being snapped up by people cashing in their Halifax or Norwich Union shares are actually helping to keep and create jobs in this country. Other retailers backed the claims by Mr Clare that most of the goods his Currys, PC World, The Link and Dixons

outlets sell have been made or assembled in the UK.

Many leading foreign brand names, such as Sony, Fujitsu and Technics, have opened plants in the UK in recent years, particularly in South Wales and Scotland's so-called Silicon Glen. They have been tempted by Britain having trading advantages as a member of the European Union, but also cheaper labour and laws far more favourable to employers than many continental countries.

Mr Clare said that more than 90 per cent of the dishwashers, microwave ovens and washing machines sold by the

group are British made. Out of the brands of personal computers it sells, 80 to 90 per cent of Compaq models and all Apricots are now assembled in the UK, while IBM assemblies about 20 per cent of its computers here, using largely foreign components.

Some Dixons goods are still sourced from abroad, including cameras, hi-fi systems and personal hi-fis. "Our preference is to support British-based manufacturers wherever possible, provided that they are internationally competitive," Mr Clare said.

Comet, part of the Kingfisher group, says it is also benefit-

ing from windfall spending and that much of what it sells is made or assembled in the UK. "The spending is mostly on upgrades — things like hi-fis and wide-screen televisions," a spokesman said.

Another company whose shares benefited from the Dixons figures yesterday, in expectation of a big sales uplift, was Marks & Spencer. Although the drift of textile companies overseas means that it sells an increased amount of foreign goods, M&S remains one of the biggest supporters of British manufacturing, as well as one of the biggest retail employers.



Taste for a bargain

Second senior executive leaves Emap for United

By ERIC REGULY

EMAP, the magazines and radio group, yesterday lost its second senior executive to United News & Media since April.

United, owner of the Express newspapers and two ITV franchises, appointed Tony Tiffin as chief executive of Miller Freeman, the division that comprises 200 business magazines and 390 trade shows, making it the world's largest exhibitions business.

Mr Tiffin was Emap's director of business communications, whose magazines

include Retail Week. He has been replaced by Derek Carter, who was Mr Tiffin's deputy.

Mr Tiffin will work with David Arculus, Emap's former managing director who is now United's chief of operations. Robin Miller, Emap's chief executive, said he regretted Mr Tiffin's departure: "The loss of anyone senior is not to be welcomed."

But he said Mr Tiffin's resignation would not affect the planned sale of 14 Emap magazines, including Media

Week and UK Press Gazette. Mr Tiffin had managed the sale which, Mr Miller said, is now expected to close "in weeks rather than months."

A group led by Simon Tunn, Emap's former publishing director, is thought to be the leading candidate for the titles, with a bid of about £15 million.

A separate bid has been launched for Media Week and UK Press Gazette, both of which are loss-making. Mr Miller said his preference is to select one buyer for all 14 titles.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Shares of retailers rise in 'buy British' spree

THE relentless rise of the pound against its major rivals means that City investors are happy to buy British.

Those companies that enjoy strong domestic growth and are unaffected by currency fluctuations are now in favour of the month. Yesterday it was the turn of the food groups and supermarket chains. Both are starting to benefit from the building society windfalls, as highlighted by full-year figures from Dixons.

J Sainsbury, up 12p at 399.5p, also cheered shareholders at the annual meeting. Total sales growth was up 8.3 per cent, while like-for-like sales were 4.2 per cent ahead, so far this year. Margins were also holding steady.

There was positive news for the food retailers earlier this week when the latest inflation numbers showed the price of fresh food products rising.

Sainsbury was able to make headway despite Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, the broker, urging clients to switch into Safeway. 12p better at 387p. The news from Sainsbury was also good news for Asda, up 14p at 339.5p. Kwik-Save, 2.5p firmer at 32.5p. William Morrison 3p harder at 168p, and Tesco 1p stronger at 419.5p.

Reuters is seen as another casualty of a strong pound, finishing the day 23p cheaper at 568p.

The rest of the equity market ended on a flat note, with investors waiting anxiously for the outcome of the Bank of England independent economic policy committee meeting. A further quarter-point rise in interest rates appears to be on the cards. In the event, the FTSE 100 index rallied strongly from an early near 30-point fall to sport a rise of almost 20 points at one stage. It was unable to hold on to the best gains, as Wall Street suffered an opening setback, and closed down 3.9p at 4,762.4.

Total turnover reached 935 million shares, boosted by several program trades among second and third liners.

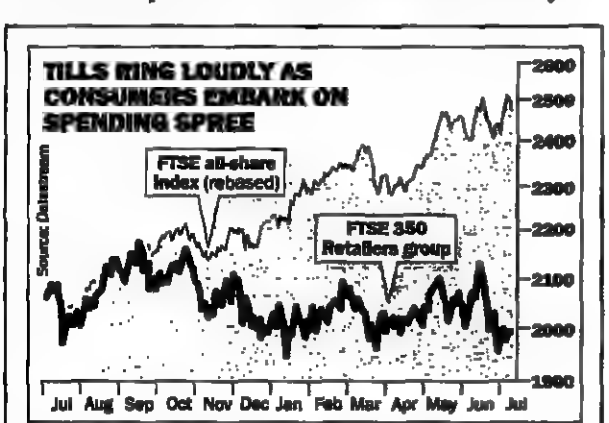
This week's report highlighting that manufacturing output had slumped to its lowest level for more than a decade continued to undermine the engineering sector. There were losses for David Brown, 28p to 190p, Power-Screen International, 18p to 63.5p, Morgan Crucible,



Keith McCullagh, left, and Alan Drummond of British Biotech, down 15p on a slowdown in research trials

falling from 58.3 million to 55.5 million.

A profits downgrade left ICI 10p down at 806p. HSBC James Capel, the broker, is said to have cut its forecast for the current year from 470 million to 435 million, reflecting the strong pound and the effects of scrapping the ACT credits on dividends. It has also reduced its numbers for 1998 by 170



STORE chains enjoyed the three best gains among the top 100 companies. The move was prompted by better than expected profits from Dixons up 43p (8.8 per cent) at 536p, which says sales have been boosted by the building society windfalls. There were also gains for Marks & Spencer 26p higher at 534p, Kingfisher 28p at 692p, Next 23p at 708p, Great Universal Stores 16p at 614p, and Boots 20p at 782p.

Robin Alhouse, at Mess-Person, says that yesterday's sharp gains were

million to £80 million. BAT Industries closed 12p off at 536p amid reports that President Clinton refuses to accept restrictions on the US Food and Drug Administration's powers to regulate nicotine in cigarettes.

Centrica was unchanged at 79p after claims from Société Générale Strauss Turnbull that the shares are overvalued. Irene Himona at Strauss said the group was likely to record a loss and was unlikely to pay a dividend until the turn of the century.

There was a cautious response from the City to full-year figures from British Biotech, headed by Keith McCullagh, chief executive, with Alan Drummond the research director. The shares ended down 15p at 185p. Brokers were disappointed because of concerns that Marinastat, its cancer treatment, had fallen behind schedule during phase 3 trials.

Cable & Wireless firmed up to 549p despite being underpinned by a "strong buy" recommendation from Salomon Brothers, the US securities house, which has also set a target price of 800p.

Woodward, this week's new-comer, lost a further 6p to 295p. The second of four auctions for stock by institutional investors produced an average price of 292.3p on 12.5 million shares traded. That compares with the first auction price of 315.3p on Monday.

GLT-EDGED: The London bond market underperformed other major bond markets as investors braced themselves for a further rise in bank base rates. Dealers say rates could rise by as much as half a point, although the general view suggests a rise of a quarter of a point. Prices gave up ground before the close with longer dated issues the worst hit.

In futures, the September series of the long gilt finished 52p off at 114.25 as a total of 52,000 contracts were completed.

In longs, Treasury 3 per cent 2015 finished 1/2p down at 110.15, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 shed five ticks at 110.24.

NEW YORK: Shares opened higher with the 8,000 level in sight, but still as trading curbs were applied. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 30.99 points lower at 7,931.32.

New York (midday): Dow Jones 7931.32 (-30.9) S&P Composite 916.15 (-2.68)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 19077.27 (-156.72)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 14705.32 (-48.4)

Amsterdam: Euronext 955.37 (-17.35)

Sydney: All Ordinaries 2686.10 (-16.90)

Frankfurt: DAX 4053.86 (-49.40)

Singapore: Straits Times 1982.97 (-34.28)

Brussels: CMC-40 2690.36 (-20.73)

Zurich: SMI Gen 1215.20 (-2.81)

London: FT 30 3880.1 (-5.49) FTSE 100 4762.4 (-19.5) FTSE 250 4962.5 (-1.5) FTSE 350 4962.5 (-1.5) FTSE 1000 4962.5 (-1.5) FTSE All-Share 4962.5 (-1.5) FTSE 100 Financials 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Industrials 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Services 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Tech 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Health 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Energy 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Telecom 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Media 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Retail 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Financials 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Industrials 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Services 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Tech 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Health 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Energy 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Telecom 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Media 2268.4 (-0.42) FTSE 100 Retail 2268.4 (-0.42)

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Growing, growing, gone?

DIXONS is giving the Bank of England a few reasons to push up interest rates — sales growth of 17 per cent and a huge store investment programme. But the stock market believes that a retail recession is just round the corner. Who is right?

The windfall from building society shares is clearly a one-off and Dixons admitted yesterday that such sales growth cannot be sustained. The gain was spectacular compared with last year, when TV sales enjoyed a boost from the Olympics and Euro '96. As a result current-year profits will enjoy a £15 million windfall, but there are reasons to expect growth to continue in 1998.

Dixons is spending £12 million this year on store expansion, mainly at Curry's, and a similar sum is earmarked for next year. The evidence of recent sales figures suggests that

Dixons is having no trouble increasing market share, without the need to cut prices, a phenomenon which intrigues the OFT.

But what about interest rates, warn the bears? Inflation is rising, they say, and if the Bank of England does not act now it will pump up rates even more aggressively in the autumn, causing a Christmas sales disaster. This seems alarmist, not least because consumer credit is priced at astronomical APRs that bear no relation to base rates. The key to consumer confidence is housing. Negative equity is quickly receding and the mortgage market is competitive enough to keep rates at lowish levels.

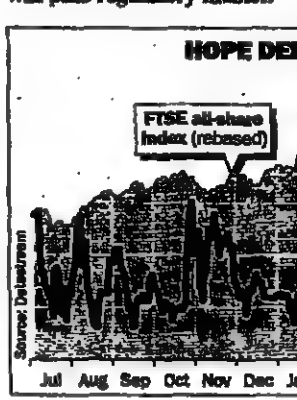
Dixons shares are rated on a par with market at 13.7 times current-year earnings, a ridiculous price for a company growing at such a rate. If this is recession, bring on the boom.

British Biotech

BIOTECH investors are nervous and desperately need reassurance, yet whichever way they turn lies fresh disappointment. A year that began brightly has seen a succession of companies fail to deliver on their promise. Hardly a good time for the daddy of them all, British Biotech, to bring news of more delays in the development of its first two drugs.

Compared to Cellect's problems, British Biotech's difficulties are barely worth mentioning. Yet so much is riding on the company and particularly on Marinastat, its cancer drug, it is not surprising that the shares initially fell 28p to 173p. The City was unmoved to hear that the first results of the crucial phase III trials of Marinastat will not be available until 1999. Meanwhile,

in the US, British Biotech has been advised to triple the size of its trial of Zactem, the pancreatic drug that is intended to be the company's first launch. This in particular sends all the wrong signals. Biotech bears fear of the industry's optimism is not backed by the know-how to design clinical trials that will pass regulatory muster.



MAID

WELCOME to the wonderful world of Dan Wagner, chief executive and founder of MAID, the electronic information group whose share price chart looks like a relief map of the Himalayas. Yesterday it announced a joint venture with Frost & Sullivan, the market research group, giving MAID joint ownership of the electronic distribution rights over F&S reports.

In theory, the deal gives Wagner a bargaining chip when dealing with Reuters, which recently pulled the plug on the news service it supplied to MAID. However, MAID reckons that 85 per cent of its subscribers only want market research, so losing the Reuters news feed does not matter anyway.

Up to a point. What subscribers want is a service that gives them the information they want — be it market research, finance or news — and also the capability to call

up information quickly in an emergency. It is a bit like a newspaper. Some readers want articles on gardening, others on lacrosse reports; without complete coverage, they will not buy the paper, however good its basic news.

Wagner's problem is he is a peripheral player, with little market power. To compete against giants, he needs a strong partner, such as Bloomberg, which might just be tempted by the F&S deal to pay a hefty price for MAID.

Reg Vardy

THROUGH no fault of its own, Reg Vardy's investment credentials are crumbling. As a car dealer, it excels — yesterday's figures confirm its reputation as a retailer for all seasons, outperforming most of its rivals in good times as well as bad.

Vardy's traditional strength is in used cars but it is whipping the rest of the pack in new cars with sales growth of 20 per cent. The on-

wards march of its profits has only been slowed by its brave investment in new dealerships.

Moreover, the reduction in corporation tax will lift next year's earnings above the expected 24p a share, placing the company on an much better price/earnings ratio. But at present, its shares remain a long-term buy.

The blame lies with interest rates. The City is convinced that every quarter-point rise is bad news for car sales, and not even the prospect of building society windfalls seem able to combat this sentiment. A time when pension funds are pouring into "safe" sectors in post-Budget confusion is as good a time to buy as any, but the shares will be dull until institutions recover from the anxieties.

Reg Vardy is good at selling cars but the motor sector's cyclical nature makes it far from a safe home for your money.

EDITED BY CARL MORTIMER

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

ICE-40R (London 6.00pm) CRUDE OIL (\$/barrel FOB)

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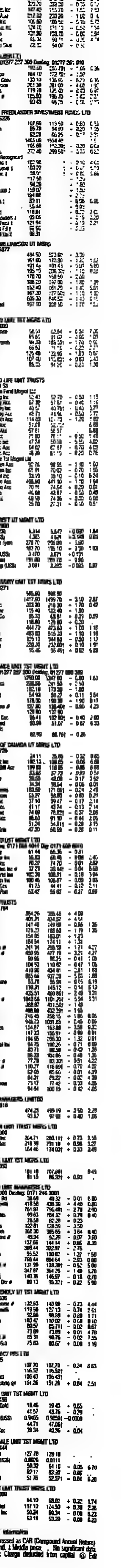
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Shares retreat towards the close

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	99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Geoff Brown on the low-budget, high-quality charms of the summer comedy *Swingers*, plus the week's other releases

Men behaving naturally make a hit

On the face of it, the last thing the Universe needs is another movie about male twentysomethings parading their hormones at the watering holes of Los Angeles. But *Swingers* earns its place in the sun. It is fresh and witty and, although events are given a twist of absurdity, you never feel far from recognisable life.

Jon Favreau, the screenwriter and lead performer, shaped his tale around the misfortunes of his own circle of semi-friends and drinking partners. The casting of Hollywood's favoured young hunks could have dissipated any sense of reality. Luckily, the project, directed by Doug Liman, was pitched as a shoestring venture, shot on the run and stocked with people almost as low on the career ladder as the characters they play.

Favreau is Mike, a struggling actor, dithering over new sexual conquests while nursing the corpse of a failed relationship. Conrads, in turn, includes Vince Vaughn's cocky Trent, the volatile Sue (male, despite the name) of Patrick Van Horn, and Ron Livingston's Ron, who suffers the failed actor's ultimate humiliation: auditioning to play Goofy at Disneyland, and being turned down.

Many portraits of male camaraderie cloud their focus with self-indulgence. Favreau and Liman, whose first cinema feature this is, keep an ironic distance from themselves and their friends, far enough to laugh at their foibles. And location work with a mobile camera in bars, apartments and parking lots removes any risk of smothering artifice. Even those allergic to male camaraderie may take pleasure in *Swingers*.

A journey on London's buses can embrace many dramas, especially during the tourist season, but they pale beside the events recorded by Spike Lee in *Get on the Bus*. Some 20 African American men are travelling from Los Angeles to Washington DC to attend the Million Man March on October 16, 1995. The character range includes a braggart actor, a gay couple, a Black Muslim, a film student, a father and son shackled together by a court order, and an old-timer called Jeremiah fond of dispensing wise words.

He is not alone. Everybody talks enthusiastically as they fraternise, antagonise and explore the black male community's current condition. For a protest rally, the Million Man March stirred up a fair bit of protest against itself, whether through the exclusion of women or the presence of an organiser of the controversial Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan. Lee never faces up squarely to either matter, and this makes the film uncomfortable viewing; but at least we are spared watching a narrative bent out of shape to allow for the characters' political debate. Locked into their bus for hour upon hour, there is not much else they can do except talk, or possibly sleep.

As the group crosses the country, changing vehicles and drivers, confronting issues in jittery, often grainy, visuals shot with a mobile Super 16mm camera, you can sense the freedom Lee must

have felt as he took to the road for a three-week shoot without a conventional story. He also threw aside conventional finance. Instead of relying on Columbia Pictures' coffers, Lee raised the modest \$2.5 million from "15 African American Men" (actors, basketball players, music moguls) listed in the end credits.

For a while the film's passion and directness of address are appealing. The ensemble cast, including Ossie Davis, Charles S. Dutton and Andre Braugher, enjoys Reggie Rock Bythewood's sharp dialogue. Then problems pile up, for both bus and film. The vehicle suffers a broken axle. The characters' jousting becomes

Swingers
Odeon West End
15, 96 mins
Fresh portrait of the young American male

Get on the Bus
Curzon West End
15, 121 mins
Contentious talkathon from Spike Lee

Someone Else's America
Metro, 15, 96 mins
Whimsical adventures of immigrants in Brooklyn

Unforgettable
Virgin Trocadero
15, 120 mins
Mistitled thriller from John Dahl

Murder at 1600
Warner West End
15, 107 mins
TV movie writ large

Select Hotel
ICA Cinema, 18, 85 mins
Flophouse life in Paris



Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn in *Swingers*, a shoestring venture shot on the run and stocked with people almost as low on the career ladder as the characters they play

too schematic. Once Washington is reached, the bus drives slap into melodrama and the debate turns to speechifying.

The message of *Get on the Bus* is salutary. Take control of your lives. Spread peace and goodwill. Don't become defined by media stereotypes, or what the film student character calls the four Rs: rap, rape, rob and riot. But by pitching the message in such an insistent and contentious way, Lee limits the film's appeal to those of the right sex and colour to board the bus in the first place.

"Tom Conti as Alonso" is not the most encouraging credit to meet at the start of a film. We have seen his Latin types before: as this Spaniard trundles into view, thick moustache, perched above the mouth, full hair swept back, painful memories recall of Shirley Valentine, when Conti pretended to be Greek. Still, fakery and culture clashes are part of the material of *Someone Else's America*, and Goran Paskaljevic's film, shot in 1994, peters along, offering wry thoughts about the hopes and yearnings of clandestine immigrants in Brooklyn.

Conti runs a bar. His pal Gayo from Montenegro (Miki Manojlovic) works at the docks. Around them cluster family problems. Conti's blind mother (Maria Casares) longs to return home, so Conti rigs up an aircraft seat and a sound effects tape to speed her on an imaginary journey. Gayo, meanwhile, has a son to

find, lost during the family's illegal entry into the country. The tone is alternately comic and sentimental, close at times to the magic realism of Paskaljevic's colleague Emir Kusturica.

But, for all its intermittent appeal, *Someone Else's America* can never shake off that thin, artificial flavour of many European concoctions. Something tells you this quaint bit of Brooklyn was recreated on sound stages in Hamburg. The actors exert charm and force, particularly Manojlovic, but once the end credits roll you are left with the feeling of having watched little ado about nothing.

The same sensation, in a different key, is provoked by *Unforgettable*, which belies its title. This should not have been so: the director John Dahl has made striking thrill-

ers before (*The Last Seduction* among them), and the cast is full of promise. But once Ray Liotta's medical examiner takes cocktails of chemicals to summon up other people's memories, Liotta and the film both hit the rocks. "I haven't even completed side-effect studies on my rat!" Linda Fiorentino's scientist bleats as Liotta, a troubled man with his wife's murderer to nail, asks for a demonstration. Side-effect studies on the implausible script and Dahl's trite visual tricks would also have been useful.

Murder at 1600 also needs a helping hand. It stars Wesley Snipes, slightly less cocky than usual as a homicide detective in Washington DC. Its setting is the White House, where an office worker has been found murdered in a washroom cubicle. Secret Service agents try to contain the damage, including decorative Diane

Lane and menacing Daniel Benzali. Meanwhile, the well-meaning President (Ronny Cox) is embroiled in a hostage crisis with North Korea. With some ingenuity and rigour this could have been whipped into a passable entertainment. But the director, Dwight Little, can only cook up something as tired, slack and silly as the average TV movie.

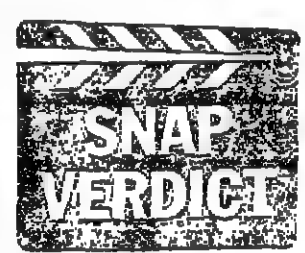
Passing visitors should avoid checking into *Select Hotel*, although French cinema enthusiasts may find some pleasure in this moody tale of Parisian flophouse life. Laurent Bouhnik, its writer and first-time director, begins with straight-to-camera confessions from its residents: they talk of "waiting for the end", even suicide. Bouhnik views their behaviour with compassion and visual acuity, though you have to be tolerant of the film's miserabilist aesthetic to stay the course.

'Young, cool and sexy — I loved it'

Every week, young film fans discuss some of the latest releases...

MURDER AT 1600
Damian: Any film with the phrase "you go ahead without me, I'll be OK" is always entertaining, and this is no exception.
Leslie: This slightly unbelievable storyline is made valid by Diane Lane's highly intelligent performance.
Tim: This is edge-of-the-seat stuff. Wesley Snipes was fantastic.
Sarah: Is 1997 going to be a record year for films set in the White House? Feds that can't shoot straight, a dodgy chief of staff and a few secret tunnels: the familiar ingredients are all here in this standard political thriller.

SWINGERS
Damian: Samuel, 20: The new hip flick. This one packs a real punch with its pacy dialogue, and doesn't feel that it has to use the power of the gun to be cool.
Leslie: Isaiah Thomas, 18: *Swingers* is a huge seeded bap of talent. *Swingers* is a really great movie.
Tim: Thornton, 21: A jads-on-the-pull film that is funny and thoroughly enjoyable.
Sarah: Crook, 18: It's young, it's cool and it's sexy. I loved every minute.



UNFORGETTABLE
Damian: Clever plot, unfortunately played with more cheese than you would find in a cheese shop.
Leslie: Highly engaging thriller spoiled by badly written dialogue. Still above average.
Tim: Ray Liotta's performance is his best to date. Linda Fiorentino's acting was impeccable as usual.
Sarah: OJ and Richard Kimble shouldn't get too worried. *Unforgettable* is very forgettable — a shame, because it does look like the original plot had potential.

Increased Shakespeare company

NEW ON VIDEO

HAMLET
Columbia TriStar, PG, 1996
FOUR hours of Shakespeare? It sounds forbidding to most movie viewers. But Kenneth Branagh does everything to sweeten the pill by hiring a varied and eye-catching cast, staging the play with much visual pomp in a late 19th-century setting, and spelling out the lines for all to hear. His own Hamlet tends to chew the scenery, especially when he sets more agreeable things come from Derek Jacobi (Claudius) and Kate Winslet (Ophelia). Available to rent.

LIKE GRAINS OF SAND
Dangerous to Know, 15, 1995
STRIKING film from a young independent Japanese director, Ryusuke Hashiguchi, about high school students wading through the minefields of love and sexual identity. Hashiguchi shows immense sympathy for the vulnerabilities of adolescence, and his cast responds with natural performances. At two hours plus the film is slightly too long, although it does not pay to be inattentive: blink, and you might miss the tender glimpse of a hand



Kenneth Branagh overdoing it and Kate Winslet just about right in his full-length, sumptuous *Hamlet*

caressing a beloved's foot-print in the sand.

DAYLIGHT
CIC, 12, 1996
FANS of old-style disaster movies will be amazed by the latest adventures of Sylvester Stallone as a former head of Emergency Medical Services who happens to be driving a

taxi near by when New York's Holland Tunnel catches fire. Into the inferno he strides, finding a cross-section of humanity and plenty of chances for muscle-flexing. His speech is hard to understand; but then the script isn't exactly by Noel Coward. Director, Rob Cohen. Available to rent.

LETTER FROM AN UNKNOWN WOMAN
Second Sight, U, 1948
SUMPTUOUSLY sad and elegant romantic drama, one of the very best, splendidly set in a bygone Vienna of sweeping staircases and chandeliers. Joan Fontaine is the unknown woman obsessed with a cultured but dissolute heartbreaker (Louis Jourdan). Stylish direction by Max Ophüls: few people ever moved their cameras to such magical and heartbreaking effect.

THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES
Columbia TriStar, 15, 1996
BARBARA STREISAND directs and stars in this absurd, glossy variation on a forgotten French film about university teachers experimenting with a sexless marriage. She also plays one of them, an ugly duckling. Jeff Bridges is the other, a stud anxious to be put out to pasture. As director, Streisand leaves absolutely nothing to chance, pummelling home comedy and romance as though the target audience were both blind and deaf. She also puts Streisand the actress centre stage, though she sings only during the end credits. Available to rent.

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Bachelor boy is born again

This was the first time I had visited this vast, charming theatre since I saw the musical *Heathcliff* there a few months ago, and it was a strangely similar experience. True, the booth in the foyer was selling mugs and T-shirts embossed "Summer Holiday" instead of "Heathcliff" on their tummies. But the matrons of west London were once again rushing about with their cameras, and once again snapping Sir Cliff Richard. This time, though, he was not on the stage improbably passing himself off as Emily Brontë's sex-monster, but sitting in the stalls surrounded by bouncers with walkie-talkies, his duffel smile and black-and-white striped blazer combining to suggest a cross between a zebra and the Queen Mother.

His presence was appropriate, too, because back in the 1960s he starred in the film of *Summer Holiday*. You recall that pleasant little tale of Cockney busmen on a double-decker spree in Europe? Transposition to the stage has not, I fear, done much for it. The sexy bits, which mainly consist of a boy

Summer Holiday
Lambert's Apollo

inadvertently stripping to his Y-fronts in front of a girl in disguise, seem wonderfully innocent in our full-frontal era. Yet overall Uitz's production will probably strike even nostalgic-fracks as an offputting blend of the loud and the naïf.

Anyway Uitz, who also designs, has built or borrowed a London bus that would be more plausible if its joints were more invisible and its upper deck quivered less. Luckily or unluckily, we see little of it as the cast visits Paris (here, a starving accordion player, bellhops in sky-blue) and Switzerland (a clock, bells, peasants in frilly aprons) and Italy (a bridal party and mafiosi) and finally Greece (blokes in white skirts, gold waistcoats and red caps).

The story, such as it is, involves Darren Day's Don and Clare Buckfield's Barbara, respectively an impressively Apollonian bus driver and a demure American pop star. They are pursued across

France (a yellow backcloth with pink spots) and the Alps (flocks of green fur) by her pushy, possessive mother, and the denouement is never in doubt. But that does not matter because the real point of the evening is its tuneful tootles: *Travelling Light*, *Summer Holiday*, *Bachelor Boy*, et al.

Is it old-fashioned to complain of the over-mixing or to ask why the principals have to wear black electronic gear that stretches from ears to chins, giving the impression that even the girls have let their sideburns run amok? Well, this didn't seem to bother the punters, who hooted when the males flashed their chests or legs, clapped and waved to the music, and went wild when Cliff joined the cast onstage for a reprise of *Summer Holiday*.

I must admit to feeling some sympathy with Lord Lloyd-Webber, who weaved through the throng muttering "oh dear, oh dear" like a harried herbivore from Lewis Carroll. But who were we to resist what's less a musical, more a phenomenon?

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Too rude for prime time

Ever since the genre of intimate revue sank beneath the waves of television, back in the 1960s, there have been keen-eyed observers up in the crow's nest of the good ship *Theatre Critic* ready to call "Revue ahoy!" to the crew waiting on deck. Usually the sighting turns out to be a tired old hulk, patched together from even older hulks, and quickly foundering. But over the past three or four years several sounder vessels have hove into view, and these may be the flagships of a future fleet.

The striking feature of recent revues at the Tricycle and Stratford East is that the performers, writers and directors have been black, one possible reason being that TV still doesn't offer them enough chances to use their own roasteries, so theatre beckons. Another reason must be that the happily obscene repertory in almost every sketch would give TV controllers the vapours.

This latest example of the form,

Revue or Not
Theatre Royal
Stratford East

directed by the Posse's director Jo Martin, is the work of Robert McKewley, fondly remembered as Spider in *Diamonds*, and Adeshgun Doli, rapper and stand-up. They make an engaging duo, McKewley the short and perky one, Doli his lanky and fractionally more laid-back partner.

Their show is a succession of sketches, interlarded with songs, which they manage well enough when this means rapping but less well when a melody comes their way. They are funniest when parodying the wilder extremes of the black scene, like the two apologetic rappers deconstructing their violent lyrics to show that they are in fact respectful hymns to

harmony. Or the clever dance contest between James Brown and Michael Jackson, with nifty footwork from McKewley and well-sustained solemnity from both.

Clare Perkins plays a leprechaun and various female roles, though not every one of them because the two other players, Laurence Stevenson and Annet Channa, drag up for the posturing bouncers number. Coquettish in this, Stevenson has a nice line elsewhere in sweet but slow-witted responses. Cleverest and filthiest of the routines is the "Are You A Nineties Man?" sequence where a member of the audience must choose the most stylish sequel to some unmentionable social catastrophe.

The opening of the show needs polish and some of the video stuff is terrible, but there is enough liveliness, wit and good humour here to cry "Talent ahoy!"

JEREMY KINGSTON



Fare game: Darren Day goes a-busking by bus as a latter-day Cliff Richard in the breezy new stage version of *Summer Holiday*

Out of the groove

IN WHAT amounted to a personal musical manifesto in the sleeve notes to his most recent album, the saxophonist Joshua Redman dedicated himself to a Janus-like stance with regard to "the tradition" and determined to return to "the open-minded, wide-eyed sensibilities of my early years".

The title of that album, *Freedom in the Groove*, neatly sums up the 28-year-old Californian's approach: unequivocally



ally modern, yet sufficiently imbued with the spirit of the great swing improvisers to ensure that the music avoids the enslavement to the groove that can characterise much contemporary jazz.

Redman and band went straight to *Freedom in the Groove* for their first two numbers, a smart, airy guitar/tenor theme entitled *Home Fries* and a bustling tune, *Streams of Consciousness*, that highlighted the leader's alternately grainy and pleasantly foggy tenor sound.

The acid test for any jazz saxophonist, though, is the standard ballad, and Redman chose a classic: *My One and Only Love*. After Peter Bernstein's softly chiming guitar introduction, Redman caressed the tune's melody with the sort of emotional intensity that suggested that, like his great heroes Dexter Gordon and Lester Young, he studies the lyrics of his standards and improvises with their sentiments firmly in mind.

Snappy, rhythmic originals, crisply propelled by the superbly smart rhythm team of pianist Peter Martin, bassist Christopher Thomas and drummer Brian Blade, formed the meat of Redman's 90-minute set, but it was an also version of Ornette Coleman's *Una Muy Bonita* that provided the highlight, the tune's startling melodic twists providing a perfect vehicle for Redman's easy virtuosity.

Roared back to the stage for an encore (serving Berlin's *Remember*), Redman tacitly acknowledged the vital role his first-class band had played by featuring them in turn.

CHRIS PARKER

MUSIC: Two British singers in recital, and the world premiere of a cantata derived from a Leonard Bernstein musical that flopped

Tenor sounds a last hurrah

Dennis O'Neill
Covent Garden

As the curtain slowly descends at the Royal Opera House this week, one final concert performance took place: a one-man show by the tenor Dennis O'Neill. He was paying valditory tribute to Covent Garden's current festival composer, Verdi, in a recital shared with his bel canto ancestors, Bellini and Donizetti, and his successors, Leoncavallo, Cilea and Tosti.

Verdi framed the evening. First, as *Luisa Miller's* Rodolfo, O'Neill fused pain and anger, long perspectives of love remembered and anguished foreground detail of love betrayed, in a compelling performance of *Quando lei s'era al placido*. And by the end of the recital, O'Neill's tenor had reached full stature: as Otello in a remarkably concentrated recreation of the summation and expiry of his life.

Dennis O'Neill
Covent Garden

With Ingrid Surgenor's sensitive piano accompaniment, every nuance, every last flicker of movement of breath and pulse was reactivated. Dwyer-eyed ladies sat rapt and ardent young men prepared to unfold their cheerleaders' banners.

The real warmth and affection for O'Neill which emanated from this audience had been generated cumulatively throughout the recital. O'Neill has a particular knack for

drawing his listeners close into the living presence of every note by a meticulous scaling of the voice to the repertoire, by lively eye contact and close-focused gesture.

Three concert arias by Bellini, including *Vaga luna che l'argenti* and *Ma rendi pur contento* threaded each word through the melodic line with tender care. Thus, even when a phrase in *mezza voce* or half-voice was initially a little undernourished, it still made its emotional mark.

With the grief-stricken rhetoric of Donizetti's *Emilia* and Gasparini's serene *Musica proibita*, O'Neill's voice lim-

bered up to full, supple strength for Pagliacci's anguished *Vesti la giubba*. The powder, paint and motley of the tragic clown was ironically donned, and fleshed out in the orchestral colours and textures cunningly recreated by Surgenor's subtly delivered piano accompaniment.

Her piano playing and O'Neill's quietest singing were at their most eloquent after the interval in *E la solita del pastore*, the little pastoral vignette from Cilea's *L'Arlesiana*. Then, from a shepherd's sleep and oblivion, O'Neill's tenor woke to honour Queen Victoria's memory in three songs by her beloved Paolo Tosti: *Tormento*, *L'ultima canzone* and a delightful *A vucchella*, quite cleansed of cliché, with each seductive phrase turned and tasted to the full.

HILARY FINCH

Warmed-over turkey

Leonard Bernstein's musical to celebrate the American bicentenary 21 years ago, *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*, turned out to be his biggest flop. After a rocky ride on the way to New York it lasted a bare week on Broadway. Particular derision was directed towards the book by Alan Jay Lerner, then close to the peak of his fame, which tracked the American presidents from Washington to Theodore Roosevelt and paralleled them with the lives of a simple black family working at the White House. Lerner might have chanced on a performance of *Cavalcade*; if so he did not absorb too much. *Pennsylvania* remained a real turkey.

Bernstein was so chagrined by the experience that he cancelled the cast album and forbade revivals in his lifetime. But, ever the professional, he did recycle some of the music.

The LSO, with some outstanding Bernstein performances at the Barbican behind them, continue the recycling process. With the composer now safely dead, *Pennsylvania* has now been stripped of as much Lerner as possible (good idea), re-launched as *A White House Cantata* and billed as a world premiere.

Despite massive forces on stage and the almost demonic conducting of Kent Nagano, revamped Bernstein still carries the flavour of heated-up turkey pie. There are perhaps five good numbers, but many



Leonard Bernstein: inferior work recycled

A White House Cantata
Barbican

of the others exude a feeling of desperation as Bernstein puts more and more razzmatazz into the orchestra to cover up a lack of inspiration.

Basically he is defeated by the concept of employing a single baritone (the highly confident Dietrich Henschel) to sing all the presidents and one soprano (Nancy Gustafson) for all the First Ladies. Presidents have one stirring number in Sousa vein, Jefferson's *Sunday Luncheon March*. Ladies have an inven-

tive scene in which two of them meet. Otherwise the multiple roles are unrewarding. Bernstein, like a good liberal, gave the best music to the chorus (the excellent London Voices) and to the servant family — Caribbean rhythms infectious sung by Thomas Young in particular. In the end it all falls apart. Turkey pie becomes a dog's dinner as a crude hump 'n' grind number is followed immediately by a fervent patriotic finale from Roosevelt. Anniversary commissions come surrounded with mantras. Those preparing something for the millennium should beware.

JOHN HIGGINS

A big hand for a brilliant duo

FRENCH and American music in equal measure afforded a stimulating two-part structure for Martin Roscoe and Peter Donohoe at two pianos. Their partnership goes back to when they were students at Manchester and, although their performances together are infrequent, they have an instinctive rapport which gives compelling character and conviction to their choice of repertoire.

They defied Debussy's title of *En blanc et noir* for their opening piece by summoning a wide range of keyboard colour to animate its three movements. The passion called for in the composer's marking of "avec empouement" for the first movement was abundant and, apart from a moment of abrupt pedalling disrupting the lament for a First World War victim in the middle movement, it was spirited, but disciplined — as was the dancing finale dedicated to Stravinsky.

Their exchange of finger-work gave balance and substance to the engaging confection of some Beethoven Variations by Saint-Saëns, but the effect was eclipsed by their command of texture and sonority for Ravel's arrangement of *La Valse*. In this form it acquires the clarity of a black and white version of what is usually heard in

Roscoe/Donohoe
Wigmore Hall

opulent orchestral colour. Glittering and lightly sprung at first, it developed all the feverish and macabre qualities embodied in the music.

After the interval Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* was played in tantalising rhythms, the latter's *Danzon Cubano* in its original form showing the two pianists completely at one in judging the rhythms and displaced accents, as they were also in the blues-inflected elements of *An American in Paris*.

To hear Gershwin's motor-horns replaced by insistent, repeated piano notes on different degrees of the scale was fascinating, as was the judgment of tempo in the different musical moods. Percy Grainger's arrangement of the suite from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* was new to me, and aroused respect for his treatment of familiar melodies that implied a lyrical vocal line in the keyboard writing, and still suggested a sense of dramatic perspective. Equal brilliance from both pianists continued into glittering Paganini Variations as a first encore for an almost sold-out audience.

NOEL GOODWIN

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PERCY GRAINGER's *The Warriors*, one of the most remarkable of this extraordinary composer's scores, has suddenly been rediscovered after 80 years. John Eliot Gardiner recorded it for DG not so long ago, Richard Hickox brings it to the Proms later this month (with a Chandos recording in the pipeline), and now Simon Rattle offers his own interpretation.

Subtitled "Music to an imaginary ballet for orchestra and 3 pianos", *The Warriors* was described by Grainger as "an orgy of warlike dances, processions and merry-makings broken, or accompanied, by amorous interludes". In love or in war the vibrant Grainger spirit is unquenchable, and Rattle's reading is aptly uninhibited.

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In a Naxos shoebox four disparate — and pre-existing — numbers into another of Grainger's idiosyncratic but undeniably effective suites, while the *Lincolnshire Posy* ("a bunch of musical wildflowers") is the composer's colourful description of perhaps his most personal homage to folk song and folk singers.

VOCAL
Hilary Finch

AN 1822 SCHUBERTIAD
Ainsley/Koningsberger/Johnson
Hyperion CDJ33028 *** £14.49
WITH an over-abundance of songs to meet the bicentenary deadline, the Hyperion Schubertiad Edition continues doggedly apace, with the 28th volume presenting 22 more Lieders, complete with a 75-page booklet of texts and typically searching and illuminating essays by Graham Johnson to recreate an 1822 Schubertiad.

This was, indeed, the year of the Schubertiad — those informal gatherings of Schubert and friends for poetry reading, song and summer excursions. The composer

was at the height of his powers, confident and independent, and not yet struck down by the syphilis which was to blight the remainder of his short life. *Jule de vivre* numbers out of some of his most virtuosic piano writing, whether heroically illustrating the Rhine in flood in *Johanna Sebus*, or running fingers through the curly locks of the beloved in *Versunken*.

Johnson, of course, relishes every minute, especially where the spirit of the Schubertiad is epitomised in part songs such as *Die Nachtigall*, *Frühlingsgesang* and *Des Tages Weihe*, where this album's soloists, tenor John Mark Ainsley and baritone Maarten Koningsberger, are joined by singers such as Simon Keenlyside, Ian Bostridge and Patricia Rozario.

OPERA
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Roger Scruton
admires a
philosopher
whose work is
informed by
her compassion
and her art

Dame Iris Murdoch is a novelist by vocation, and a philosopher by profession. There have been other examples in our century: Santayana, Ayn Rand, Unamuno, Sartre. But they have used their fictions as didactic vehicles, and taken time off from story-telling to give improving (or, in the case of Sartre, corrupting) homilies. Dame Iris, while lacking none of their seriousness, hides behind her narratives with the restraint of a true artist. Her inventiveness and powers of observation surely justify the esteem in which she is held. She is as worthy a member of the guild of novelists as any other writer of our century, and has had an effect on the collective consciousness that no mere philosopher could hope for.

Fiction, Murdoch emphasizes in these essays, deals with concrete experience, and conveys truth directly, without the crippling detour through abstract arguments. Her novels are influenced by philosophy, but not guided by it. She conveys, through her intricate

IRIS MURDOCH
Existentialists and Mystics
Edited by Peter Conrad
Chatto & Windus, £20
ISBN 0 7011 66 29 0

plots, a sense of the extremes to which our modern aversion to extremes has propelled us. This makes her not so much a philosophical novelist as a religious one — a novelist attuned to our spiritual predicament, who offers a kind of petitionary prayer on behalf of the endlessly tormented but utterly plausible characters who emerge from her vast imagination.

The publication in one volume of Iris Murdoch's philosophical papers and dialogues is to be warmly welcomed. Dame Iris is a true philosopher, but a modest one: she makes no grandiose claims on her own behalf, but tries by the gentlest persuasion to awaken her reader to the examined life. The moral seriousness of her novels is here translated into powerful theory and one that brings the kind of absorbing hope for which her characters so often yearn in vain. For Murdoch the good has an absolute sovereignty. It cannot be overthrown but it can be avoided. To understand this is to understand what it means to be free, and what it is to act and to be a unified consciousness. Murdoch writes of an intimate knowledge of Plato, as well as the art of fiction. The philosopher whom she most admires, she is aware, "but art may be a destructive force; but unlike Plato, she believes that it is only bad art which destroys, whereas good art is the guide and counsellor of mankind. It is therefore one of the most important tasks of the philosopher to analyse the distinction between good art and bad. She



Iris Murdoch by Tom Phillips (1986) in *The National Portrait Gallery* by Charles Saumarez Smith (NPG, £17.50)

writes that "the practice of any art is a moral discipline, in that it involves a struggle against fantasy, against self-indulgence".

She suggests that fiction is always, "in however covert, unclear, secret, ambiguous a way", about the conflict between good and evil. Fantasy and self-indulgence are the enemies of art, although in the age of television and commercialised culture people have lost sight of this truth. The artist who indulges fantasy — through the pornographic image, for example — puts himself on the side of evil. For he contributes to the fragmentation of the self which occurs when the self falls out of relation with others and refuses to risk itself in works of love.

While fantasy indulges and destroys the self, imagination enlarges it. In the act of imagination we explore the world of other people, go out to them in sympathy, and are compelled to distinguish the lovely from the unlovely, the good from the bad. The work of the imagination is disciplined, intricate

and hard; the work of fantasy is a slippery slope of desire. The work of imagination cheers us, she says, by "constructing forms out of what might otherwise seem a mass of senseless rubble". This making of forms is not arbitrary, since art in general, and imaginative literature in particular, is a "truth-seeking activity". Much of the pleasure of art consists in a recognition of "what we vaguely knew was there but never saw before". This thing that we recognise is the Good, the arresting gift of sacrifice which always astonishes. When art ceases to show us the Good, and becomes instead a mirror for our eager narcissism, it joins the forces of corruption.

Such is my reading of these rich and far-reaching essays. And the lesson to be drawn from them is of the first importance of our time, when our culture has been swamped by fantasy, and when the prizes are awarded not to those who have mastered the art that renews human virtue, but to those who know only how to excite our basest desires.

I HAVE LONG thought that Banana Yoshimoto's novels should carry a Government imposed health warning: something like "This book can seriously do your head in." Experienced Yoshimoto readers should realise that her novels can have the effect of addictive drugs — the intoxicating highs are accompanied by rather more numerous doomy lows and therapy should perhaps be considered on completion. *Amrita*, her latest novel, is like her previous bestsellers — *Kitchen*, *N.P.* and *Leopard*, a tale of absolute kitsch told with a mixture of childlike naivety, flights of bizarre fantasy and a great deal of poetic morbidity. A celebrated actress — a magnetic Marilyn Monroe figure — dies in strange circumstances leaving a trail of family and friends whose disjointed lives come together to share their melancholy at the transience of life. The story unfolds

It is curious how a body of work by a painter can remain exactly the same and that his reputation can remain very high in the eyes of the gallery-going public while behind the scenes, life and death struggles over the artist's immortal soul go on between mutually hostile camps of academics. Such is the case with Gauguin, although this will certainly come as a surprise to most readers of *The Times*, who probably continue to find his Tahitian paintings both raw and subtle, simple and mysterious, an achievement complete in themselves but also an essential ingredient in the mix of modern art.

Perhaps one day someone will write a fascinating book on how Gauguin the modernist hero became Gauguin the feminist hate object. The outlines of the painter's own story are clear enough: Paris stockbroker becomes collector of avant-garde art and part-time painter. He soon throws over security and comfort, wife and children to paint full time, preferring places increasingly remote from the materialism and artificiality of the late 19th-century city to achieve a purification of his sensibility and his art.

Pont-Aven in Brittany and, briefly and disastrously, Arles with Van Gogh, are followed by self-imposed exile to the furthest fringe of the French colonial empire in the South Seas. Following to its logical extreme the *fin de siècle* taste for the primitive, Gauguin, as he recorded in his book *Noa Noa*, convinced himself that "after the disease of civilisation life in this new world is a return to health". This version of the story is, with Van Gogh's unhappy struggle, one of the paradigmatic tales of heroic modernism.

More recently, however, another spin has been put on it in which Gauguin becomes a representative of colonialist exploitation and sexual tourism, the willing disposer of the primitive paradise he purported to admire. There are more or less subtle versions of this reading. But they all tend to reduce the Tahitian paintings, his most famous and characteristic works, to evidence of Gauguin's racist attitudes and debauched tastes.

Gauguin's Skirt (in case you wondered, the reference is to the native *pareu*, a garment common to both sexes, that Gauguin wore much of the time in the South Seas) takes a very different line. By bringing to bear some intelligent anthropology as well as art

Subtle in the South Seas

Marc Jordan

GAUGUIN'S SKIRT
By Stephen F. Eisenman
Thames & Hudson, £19.95
ISBN 0 500 07666 2

history and a keen appreciation of the aesthetic quality of the art, Stephen Eisenman is able to present a convincing picture of a Gauguin who is neither the solitary genius of the heroic interpretation or the self-indulgent phallicist beast of the feminists and post-colonialists.

The key to Professor Eisenman's on the whole sympathetic and appreciative portrayal is the highly ambivalent racial, social and sexual position that the painter occupied in Tahiti for both the expatriates and the natives. With his eccentric appearance, disregard for conventional morals and his meddling in local politics, he quickly became a thorn in the sides of the settlers and the administration. His attempts to "go native" were not entirely successful either and he was to some degree a

figure of sympathetic ridicule to the Tahitians. Yet in the end, Eisenman argues, it was Gauguin's sexuality, and in particular the sophisticated understanding of gender that he brought from Symbolist circles in Paris, that enabled him to appreciate that the much looser boundaries between the sexes in Tahiti were not, as they appeared to the colonists, a reprehensible sign of degeneracy but were an integral part of historical Polynesian culture. They were a vehicle of passive resistance to European values and recognised aspects of the human condition that Westerners ignore at their peril.

If this sounds to the sceptic a little too pat and post-modern it can only be said that not only is Eisenman's argument a good deal subtler than this brief summary, but that it is convincingly grounded in an understanding of both Polynesian and French culture in the 19th century.

Eisenman gives to Gauguin something of the role of a sympathetic ethnographer, privileged to observe the Tahitian way of life with fewer prejudices than his fellow French and to incorporate his understanding into works of art that draw on European and Polynesian traditions.

Above all, *Gauguin's Skirt* appears to give intuitively satisfying insights into the meaning of a strange and beautiful group of paintings that dispel some of the spurious mystifications of the modernist interpretation without going to the reductionist opposite of the feminist one.



Politically incorrect? Tahitian girl by Gauguin, circa 1892

Peel away the soul and keep the pith

Joanna Pitman

AMRITA
By Banana Yoshimoto
Faber, £12.99
ISBN 0 571 92793 3

through the eyes of Sakumi, the actress's older sister, who meanders through life in a haze of late adolescent confusion, trying to look after her troubled younger brother, who turns out to have psychic powers. She is also dealing with their kooky, twice-married mother, while attempting to build up a serious relationship with her dead sister's ex-lover (who happens to be writing a novel called *Amrita* about all of the above).

Confused? Just you wait. There is an eclectic cast of spirits, erotic ghosts, episodes of memory loss and partial retrieval, near suicide,

a smattering of cross-dressing among other odd sexual disguises, all set against the electric and demonic spirit of contemporary life in Japan's megacities.

Pathos, nostalgia, the sense of exquisite sadness at the fleetingness of life are key elements of beauty in Japanese aesthetics, and all are themes central to Yoshimoto's books. Sakumi broods feverishly over the loss of her sister. She aches over the passing of time. She pours out poetic sadness and wallows listlessly in nostalgic memories. "The scent of my house came over the phone as I talked to my mother that night. It was a strong fragrance, something that would surely disappear once my mother was gone..."

Some of her lines read like the agonising lyrics of a bad pop song. "Maybe at some point in time, on a certain date at a certain time, my memory will be lost forever."

because I'll be dead or just crazy. I'm not exaggerating... Whatever happens, happens. I don't really care. Even if I die. My life has been fun. I have no regrets. Actually, I have nothing, not a single thing to show for my days and months and years on this planet — no children, nothing, zilch. If I died right now, I'd just disappear from one side of me to the other." At other times, her tone veers from simple straightforward prose to the child-like naivety of a young girl's diary, picking over the sad bones of a devastatingly bumpy upbringing.

Japan's youth has come to crave Yoshimoto's curiously naive writings, which in their obsession with loss, their regression to childhood, their dreamworlds and androgynous fantasies, resemble Japan's very popular mass market Manga (cartoon comics) — compact, accessible, dangerously addictive but ultimately disposable fiction.

Roger Bannister voyages through the realms of brain and mind in the company of a lucid navigator

The loneliest planet of all

THE HUMAN BRAIN
A Guided Tour
By Susan Greenfield
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £11.99
ISBN 0 297 816426

Dr Susan Greenfield, a neuro-pharmacologist, is rightly admired as a popular communicator and *The Human Brain: A Guided Tour* will appeal as a Baedeker to the brain, even to the non-scientist.

Watching my grandchildren, I am struck again by the strange power that impels them to explore their world. How amazing that our DNA differs only one per cent from the chimpanzee but our brain power on maturity, measured by cortical area, is four times as great.

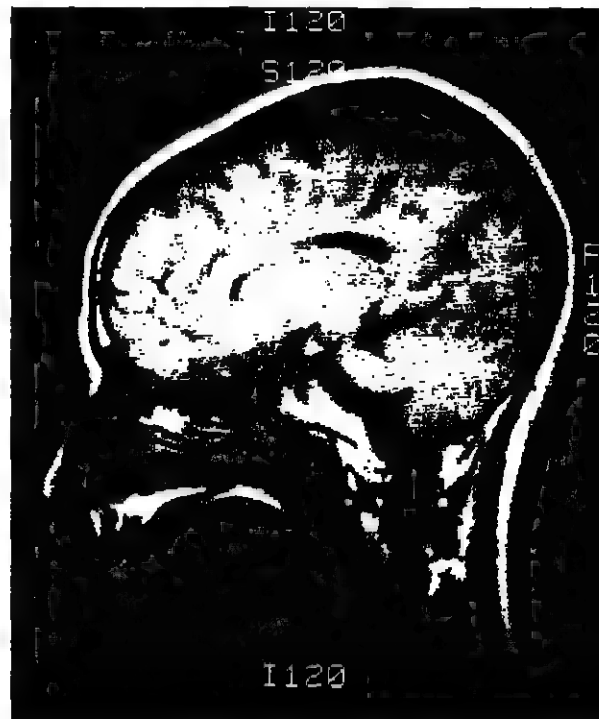
Dr Greenfield lightens her historical introduction with asides on the place of serendipity in brain research. How lucky it was that Camillo Golgi accidentally dropped a piece of brain into a nearby silver nitrate solution which stained the complex glory of brain cells and their connections black, so taking our understanding of brain anatomy a leap forward. Neuro-pharmacology currently holds a favoured position in brain research. There are a multiplicity of chemical transmitters, neuromodulators, growth factors and endorphins. Dr Greenfield explains how — in addition — heroin, cocaine and ecstasy so easily mimic the brain's own arousal systems with such terrifying consequences.

At first she plays what I call the astronomical numbers

game. We have a hundred billion brain cells, each with some hundred thousand connections. We are told the cortex alone would give a number of links that exceeds the number of positively charged particles in the Universe. After this it is easier to dispose of the brain-computer analogies, even if the Russian world chess champion Kasparov was recently beaten by a computer. Computers work to algorithms, not common sense. Niels Bohr made the point to a student he admonished: "You are not thinking, you are just being logical."

Humans need to react quickly to survive in the ever more complex, fast moving world. A lowly sea squid which has a primitive eye and brain when it swims about as a larva, "eats" its own eye and brain when as an adult it sticks itself to a rock.

A double "awakening" came when it was shown that dopamine in the centre of the brain of patients paralysed by Parkinson's Disease. This triumph was paralleled by the drug treatment of depression, ending the shameful era of assaults on the frontal lobes of



Brain activity seen on a magnetic resonance imaging scan

the brain by surgeons: 35,000 leucotomies were done in the United States alone before this procedure was abandoned.

The clue to our brain's extraordinary effectiveness in making associations is its slow

maturation. Dr Greenfield graphically describes how neurones fight a bloody battle to get links with other cells. The harsh rule of brain life is: "use it or lose it". A boy with one eye bandaged (for an eye infection) for two weeks in infancy never gained any connections between his brain and the normal retina and so was permanently blind in that eye as a result.

The good news is that even if some brain cells die with age, unless we get a brain disease like Alzheimer's the learning functions of the brain never end. The process of adapting to experience, namely memory, is an echo of the brain's early development. New synaptic contacts mainly involving the prefrontal cortex add to our stockpile of memories and prejudices.

Charles Sherrington, the British physiologist who was also a poet, in describing the brain had to resort to the image of "an enchanted loom", with nerve impulses like lightning shuttles passing to and fro, weaving complex patterns. So Dr Greenfield has to resort to the word "dialogue", meaning the way brain cells communicate. There is no single motor centre but all areas controlling motor function are in "incessant dialogue". There is no single central visual processing of form, motion and colour but all are in a form of "balanced dialogue", continuing simultaneously in different parts of the brain.

Memory, the cornerstone of the mind, also depends on an "ongoing dialogue" between cortical and sub-cortical structures. Recent short term memory is converted over months and years into permanent changes, probably requiring altered gene expression. Memory encapsulates the individual's inner resource for interpreting the world.

Using the Houghlings Jackson hierarchy of brain evolution, she closes with a discussion of the complexities of consciousness. Consciousness, Dr Greenfield asserts, is merely the accompaniment of ever increasing numbers of brain associations provided by the enriched environment we continually explore. This is as far as she explains this conundrum.

As a neurologist I am excited by the new techniques of functional imaging by positron emission tomography and magnetic resonance imaging, which give a detailed picture of brain activity. They are advancing our understanding with startling rapidity and will bring us much closer to unravelling riddles that have teased mankind since his first consciousness.

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مكتبة الأصيل

Peter Ackroyd on the complex life and reputation of a writer too often despised for his craftsmanship and popular appeal

Escape from the institution of himself

When Somerset Maugham was shown the manuscript of Keats's *Endymion*, he was so overmastered by its emotion that he almost wept. He had been a medical student, too, and like Keats had imbibed himself in the cadences and colours of the great writers; he had identified himself with the poet strongly enough to make a pilgrimage to his grave in the Protestant cemetery of Rome. And yet how great a difference: Keats dying young and earnest and full of words, while the novelist lived until his nineties in an increasingly raddled and sour old age. At the end he resembled a turtle being boiled alive in a very expensive restaurant. But the real contrast lay in their writing: Keats produced works that will survive as long as the language itself, while Maugham has been consigned to that purgatorio of writers admired for their "craftsmanship" and popularly rather than any more distinguished characteristics.

That judgment may not be altogether fair and, in this memoir of the entire Maugham family, Bryan Connors suggests that he deserves the praise conferred upon him by writers as unlikely as Orwell and Auden. Certainly he is a "case" worth examination, both in the judicial and medical contexts which he knew so well. He was born within

a family of lawyers and judges — his brother, "Freddie", eventually became Lord Chancellor — but a heavy stammer prevented him from having to pronounce the letters of the law. He became a writer instead, whose own fictions tend to judge those who harbour secret weaknesses or unwholesome appetites. Many times in his stories "Willie" Maugham put on the black cap, and delivered the sternest sentence upon his characters.

His mother died at the age of eight; he was taken from his first home, France, and brought up by snobbish relatives in England. Anyone who has read the life of Kipling will know that such a transition can create great wounded faculties of observation and feeling. He became a medical student at St Thomas' Hospital where, "enlivened by the anatomy course" as Connors puts it in his incisive way, Maugham discovered the slums of London as well as the more secret sins of the city. Already he seems to have been a practising homosexual: according to this account he travelled with a tube of petroleum jelly in his pocket and witnessed strange scenes in the darkened auditorium of the Tivoli.

But his ambitions were still of a literary nature, and he spent much of his time in a course of intensive reading. It is sometimes assumed that Maugham was a "light" author

in the style of Coward or Benson, but in fact he was a most serious and dedicated young writer. There is a sense in which his later work is too serious and overtly moralistic; this, rather than any flippancy of tone, accounts for the occasional vulgarity of his style.

His professional experiences in the less fashionable areas of London led to his first novel, *Lisa of Lambeth*, which remains one of the

SOMERSET MAUGHAM AND THE MAUGHAM DYNASTY

By Bryan Connors
Sindhu-Stevenson, £20
ISBN 1 85196 274 1

most interesting and least patronising accounts of cockney life in the late 19th century. But its modest success was not enough; he remained in obscurity for ten years, until he was rescued by the carbon lights of the stage. He was a natural playwright and he had the ability to maintain suspense and elegance at the same time. But his popularity incurred the enmity of those critics, on both sides of the Atlantic, who preferred their literature to be unreadable. He wrote some excellent novels — *The Razor's Edge* and *Of Human Bondage* among them — as

well as some startlingly good short stories. But he was generally dismissed or disparaged as an entertainer rather than a writer. He pretended not to care, and sometimes asserted that art was a business rather than a profession, but his early devotion to literature had been cruelly rewarded.

After the war he became an institution, principally by remaining away from home and writing very little. His years at the Villa Mauresque have become the stuff of myth, with Maugham as the master, and in this garish landscape Connors's narrative fully comes to life. This is essentially a book of anecdote and gossip, suffused with a mordant if sometimes feline wit. It may be a work "with the emphasis on charm rather than scholarship", as Connors says of another book, but it is entertaining nevertheless.

Certainly Connors has a full and sometimes even overwhelming grasp of his subject's sexual predilections, and Maugham may even merit that deathless phrase coined for another eminent English writer, "a rose-red sissy, half as old as time". Connors is also right to emphasise the important role which Maugham's lovers played under the convenient title of "companion" or "secretary": they were often dismissed as cultural

rent-boys but, outside the circle of their care, Maugham would probably have achieved very little.

This biography is also concerned with the world around Maugham and, essentially, tries to reconstruct a family photograph with the writer at its centre. There are interesting chapters here on his brothers, and his nieces, but the subsidiary emphasis rests upon the perilous and unsteady career of Robin Maugham. The younger Maugham was a charming and kind-hearted, if somewhat feckless, raconteur whose talent for fiction was mainly reserved for the accounts of his own life. His exploits in the war inspired one contemporary to describe him as "one of the bravest men I will ever see". Yet, in the face of a famous legal father and even more famous literary uncle, he came to believe that he would always be a failure.

So *Somerset Maugham and the Maugham Dynasty* is the story of familial decay as well as personal disappointment and private anguish. In his last years Maugham did not recognise the names of his own books, and raved about demons trying to attack him. But the end is not so important as the beginning, and it is perhaps better to remember Maugham in an earlier guise. "On the whole," he wrote, "I have done what I set out to do, and the rest does not concern me."



W. S. Maugham, aged 17: embraced the sins of the city

The course of true love goes beyond biology

Roy Porter
finds the
cannibal lust of
the mantis can
teach us only
so much about
ourselves

The sex lives of animals always bring out the voyeur in human beings — however familiar we've become with the female mantis munching through the head and thorax of the male, while his abdomen is still humming away, this primal scene of cannibalism still exercises an undying fascination. In *Why Is Sex Fun?* Jared Diamond mainly zooms us into less familiar "bedrooms", especially those of birds, his speciality.

Take the Pied Flycatcher. Here the male makes a nest hole, woos a mate, impregnates her and, once the eggs hatch, brings her food — all very paternal and proper. But, while supposedly out hunting for food, he may well be setting up a secret nest on the side to provide for a second mate, just out of the wife's sight.

Polygyny means extra work for Mr Pied Flycatcher, of

WHY IS SEX FUN?
The Evolution of
Human Sexuality
By Jared Diamond
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £11.99
ISBN 0 297 81775 2

course, and the other woman's chicks may well end up with fewer insects to eat. But overall, argues Diamond, it's a rational "reproductive strategy" for the male genes — the more offspring, the better the chances of maximising "genetic output". Here, and throughout the book, half the pleasure lies in the parallels we automatically draw with goings-on in human love-nests.

And that is Diamond's point. The "biological imperative" applies to humans no less than to all the other creatures Darwinian evolution has produced. However bizarre we may find the sex life of animals, we can't, as Sam Goldwyn put it, include ourselves out. Yet he also shows that human sexuality has evolved different strategies from those displayed by the vast majority of other creatures. Humans, for example, are sexually active at all times in the menstrual cycle, rather than only when the female is fertile and on heat; women undergo a menopause, rather than retaining a reproductive potential right up to death; and so forth.

Why such differences? It's not because humans have some God-given "superiority". Nor, indeed, are we completely unique: a few creatures share such traits. Whereas the females of most species advertise ovulation and hence sexual readiness — classically, the red patch on the female baboon's behind — in vervet



Swept away by nature or nurture? Clark Gable and Joan Crawford in *Possessed* (1931). From *Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits*, a collection of George Hurrell's glamour portraits, by Mark A. Vieira (Abrams, £29.95)

monkeys, there are no visible signs of ovulation and sex goes on all the time.

The reasons for round-the-month sex, Diamond insists, are not merely physiological but evolutionary. With vervets and humans alike, sex-all-the-time perhaps evolved to attract more males or to encourage a particular male to bond more durably with his mate. "Daddy-at-home" will then provide more lasting support for the offspring (infant primates are highly dependent) — thereby forming a logical reproductive strategy.

If this book's forte is to lay bare the Darwinian rationales for the joy of sex, there also lies its frustration. For Diamond never addresses the fact that human behaviour is radically different in a far more significant way. It's the product not

just of instincts but of consciousness and choice — it is shaped by law and language, customs and culture. In sex, as in so much else, social conduct often runs clean counter to the dictates of natural selection. The sex lives most of us pursue don't remotely fulfil optimal selfish-gene strategies — otherwise: why contraception? Why homosexuality? Why voluntary childlessness? All these are fundamental questions to which Diamond turns a blind eye.

If his model of unrelenting biological imperatives is to hold water, Diamond would have to be able to explain why, as an affluent American professor, he hasn't sired dozens of children rather than the couple he here acknowledges (or has he got a dark secret?). The truth is that evolutionary

biology alone explains human sexuality only so far as the laws of acoustics explain the *Eroica*. Hence this book promises more than it delivers, like all the other sociobiological works which interpret human behaviour by analogies to rats and rabbits. Only an idiot would ignore the biological component in human sexuality; but the nub of the matter is to tease out the ties and tensions between the biological and the socio-cultural; and that is not attempted here.

Once or twice Diamond makes a gesture in that direction. Amongst the Tre-ba of Tibet, he notes, two brothers regularly share one wife. What's the explanation? It lies in the local system of land tenure. Tre-ba polyandry is a way to avoid further subdivi-

ding small landholdings. Here, and here alone, Diamond draws upon the rich anthropological insights that illuminate his other books like *Guns, Germs and Steel*, published earlier this year. For the rest we are bombarded with a lot of pseudo-scientific jargon of women "gauging their genetic interests" and so forth. When Diamond states that "the big questions about human sexuality are the evolutionary questions about ultimate causal explanation" he's simply wrong; the big questions are the meanings we give to sexuality within society. However entertaining, *Why Is Sex Fun?* is marred by the blinkered neo-Darwinian reductionism now fashionable in the United States, a dogma which trivialises the question of questions.

James Lees-Milne is in his 59th year, qualifying surely by now to be one of his own ancestral voices. He has been a cult figure within a certain circle for years, a cult which the publication of his earlier diaries had widened. He belongs to that fast-fading generation which still took it for granted that to be civilised, in terms of being widely read and informed, was an on-going part of life.

We have replaced the word civilised with qualified, which is not at all the same thing, usually meaning a virtually useless degree from a minor university. In this new volume of his diaries we have, therefore, the privilege of once again sharing the responses of a man endowed with a supremely educated eye and ear able to respond as much to the architecture of a country house as to the novels of Walter Scott.

This volume covers years I remember only too vividly, 1972 and 1974, when social tension within the country mounted to new heights as the Heath Government crumbled in the face of the notorious miners' strike and those to the right shuddered at the seeming triumph of Labour and the demon Denis Healey. For the diarist and his ultra-Tory circle, revolution and civil war seemed impending. Loelia Lindsay sold the jewels she acquired as Duchess of Westminster and deposited the money in a Swiss bank "in case". "I see nothing but disaster ahead," he wrote on March 1 as Labour swept to power. The reality was that the International Monetary Fund was soon to be bailing the country out and the Labour Government was forced to pioneer the policies of Margaret Thatcher.

Here is a man of the Right, sympathetic, he admits, to Enoch Powell. Everywhere he

Stuck gladly in the mud

Roy Strong

ANCIENT AS THE HILLS
Diaries 1973-1974
By James Lees-Milne
John Murray, £20
ISBN 0 7195 5496 5

looks he sees what he describes as "the present, hideous, squalid world we are living in". But surely it wasn't all that squalid? He and his wife, Alvide, live in a gracious country house, Alderley Grange, moving by the close of the book to a house in Bath with a elegant home at Badminton in the offing. Domestic help is there, albeit that "all coloured people have to be watched over".

But the life he records is one



Lees-Milne old-school tie

long series of dinners, lunches, country house weekends and expeditions amidst a circle which goes back to the Thirties: the Sitwells, the Milfords, the Droghedas, Diana Cooper and John Betjeman. This is a world of privilege and what he writes is clearly not his only source of income. He actually refers once to the absence of "peasants" in church.

Lees-Milne idolises aristocrats of long lineage, luthers seeing the monarchy through marriage becoming "common", hates the proletariat, pop music, the manners of the young, flared trousers and long hair along with all modern architecture and the rape of the countryside. A lapsed Roman Catholic, he only warms to the Church of England if cleric and service could have stepped out of Trollope. What a shame that age has brought little joy from either the new or the young, both of which, I find, are sustaining forces. Yet one can't help having a soft spot for this unashamed arch-reactionary. He loves his country, its gardens, ancient towns and houses. His contribution to transmitting the love of that aristocratic culture to the mercantile age is to be applauded.

The trouble is he wants to preserve the society that culture represented along with it. The portrait he vividly paints of the survivors of that era is often an unendearing one. But here is a born hypochondriac who adores his dogs, records and the wild flowers in the lane, mourns the loss of friends, garners gossip and is vulnerable over hostile reviews of his work. What could such a diary be other than a pleasurable read, a must for addicts, for others a glimpse into the attitudes of someone from another time, another country?

Swedish knees made weak

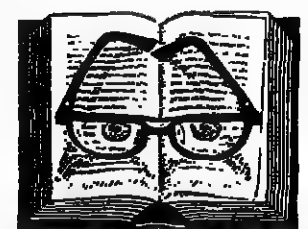
THE ANTIQUARIAN Book-sellers Association fair at the end of June was an excellent chance to inspect out-of-reach treasures. I took along a friend who recently bought a slightly defective Shakespeare folio, and he was able to inspect four others in various states of imperfection — or, in the case of Simon Finch's Fourth Folio (1685, £25,000) near perfection. Finch also had one of the most moving of literary items: a 19th-century edition of the religious poet Henry Vaughan, presented and inscribed to the greatest Victorian religious poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins, by his friend and eventual publisher Robert Bridges (1850).

This was the last fair at the Grosvenor House Hotel. Next year's will be at Olympia, where there will be more exhibitors and an extra day. The surroundings will be less plush, and further from Sotheby's and the West End trade, but the organisers, Peter Miller, hopes to attract dealers with more middle-market books and a wider clientele. At Olympia you can even celebrate a purchase with a drink for less than a fiver.

THERE is a monomania about Colin See-Paynton's wood-engravings, since most show birds and fish gliding or flashing past one another. Though aquatic rather than diagrammatic, he is a draftsman, like Escher, of intersecting planes. He uses different engraving tools to produce a variety of abstract patterns, which yet leave the perspective appropriately fluid. There is a tension throughout between

nature and geometry, violence and calm, up and down.

The *Inclusive Eye* is a catalogue raisonné of 16 years of See-Paynton's work. Offset litho printing and enlargement or reduction have compromised some blocks, but in common with other Solar Press books on artists, a numbered, signed and slipcased edition is available with



BIBLIOMANE

an original print on Japanese handmade paper (£45/£150).

ROOTING around in a bookshop the other day I discovered a collection of what the trade euphemistically calls *curiosa*, with those weirdly suggestive titles: *The Erotic Minorities: A Swedish View: Love in the South Seas; The Penny Spenders: One Man and his Operation; The Limerick: The Paris Edition; Love Affairs of the Vatican*. Sadly, there wasn't a copy of the fabled Victorian pamphlet *My Single-Handed Fight against Self-Abuse*.

The grim side was represented by *The History of Torture*, but more gruesome still were the ones printed on vile pink or blue papers (as has been the practice since the 18th century).

These reminded me of the gobsmacked morning I spent in the rare book room at Cambridge University Library, reading a late Victorian edition of the 17th-century Lord Rochester's play *Sodom*. Printed on bilious green stock, it was easily the filthiest book I have ever read. The idea of a performance would weaken even those Swedish knees. But as connoisseurs of poems such as *The Imperfect Enjoyment* will know, Rochester was a true poet. In celebration of his 350th birthday, a newly discovered *Burlesque* in Yale University Library has been published by Stephen Parkes, who observes that it represents "a very different tradition from the porn".

Meanwhile, I want to know about the man who sold his collection (and I think "man" is a safe assumption). What exactly did he say when he went into the bookshop?

OVERHEARD in Florence from a party of Australian schoolgirls: "Miss, what does 'donte' mean?" "Dente. Oh, that's teeth." "Really. Dente. Oh, Danté? That's his name. He wrote *The Decameron*. No he didn't, that was Petrarch."

JIM McCUE

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■ **LE SHUTTLE** increases fares from tomorrow until August 31 for Friday and Saturday night departures between 6pm and 10pm. Standard returns now cost £199, with five-day tickets at £129. Details: 0990 353535.

A free five-day pass to Sea World, home of Shamu the whale, Universal Studios and Wet 'n' Wild is available to passengers upgrading to Premium Economy on Virgin Holidays' flights from Manchester to Orlando. Details: 0161-498 9988

FLIGHTS

■ KLM flights to Beijing (with departures possible from 20 UK regional airports) cost £359 return. Details from Flightbookers: 0171-757 2444.

■ **OLYMPIC Airways** has "spouse fares" to Sydney or Johannesburg, providing business-class comfort for little more than the economy-class price when two people travel together. Depart before October 31. Details from Travel Mood: 0171-258 0280.

■ **AIR Tickets Direct** has a £106 return fare to Madrid flying Aerolinias Argentinas. Depart before July 14 or from August 16 onwards. Details: 0990 320321.

HOTELS

■ **SUMMIT International** Hotels has special summer rates — up to 60 per cent off — at 52 city hotels under its Summer Exclusives programme. Minimum stay two nights. Details: 0800 556555.

■ **DUBLIN'S** newest luxury hotel, the Merrion, opens next month with a special weekend offer of IRE360 (£409) for two people for two nights. Price includes a welcome bottle of champagne on arrival. Details: 003531 6030600.

■ **GUESTS** staying at the Gleneagles Hotel during the Edinburgh Festival (August 10 to 30) will be taken to and from

■ A SUNDAY golf break at the Five Lakes Hotel and Country Club near Maldon in Essex costs £49.50 a person including Sunday afternoon golf, dinner and accommodation. Details: 01621 368888.

■ **TYLNEY HALL** near Hoo in Hampshire offers a summer rate of £169 a room night for bed, breakfast and dinner. Guests staying for three nights get the third night at a special rate of £84.50. Details: 01256 764 881.

■ THE Swallow Hotel in Birmingham is offering a package to see *Les Misérables* at Birmingham Hippodrome until the end of September. Two nights, dinner and the theatre ticket cost from £185 per person. Details: 0121 452 1144.

■ **FLY** in a Tiger Moth plane and stay at the Spreadeagle Hotel on the edge of the Sussex Downs. Two nights' accommodation, dinner and the flight cost from £270 a person until the end of September. Details: 01730 816911.

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CONNECTIONS

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Prescott orders Thames revival

By Harvey Elliott

PLANS to turn the Thames into one of Europe's busiest rivers are to be put to the Government within the next three months. A new organisation, Thames 2000, made up of local authorities and private businesses, has been instructed to produce by October a report setting out workable ideas for ways of using the Thames to its full advantage in time for the millennium celebrations.

John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, is to lead the campaign, which will include building new piers on both banks of the river, to be serviced regularly by a fleet of fast river buses.

Previous river bus services have failed through lack of cash and customers. The strong tidal flow in the Thames also can create problems for operators attempting to run regular trips.

However, the Government is confident these difficulties can be overcome. Mr Prescott says: "I want to make the millennium the turning point for the revitalisation of the Thames, which will deliver a genuine legacy for Londoners, boost our tourist industry and bring new life to the river."

Throughout central London there is a run of riverside visitor attractions, all of which are, or could be, served by pier. Already, there is growing interest in the river. New visitor attractions and facilities are opening up from Battersea to Butler's Wharf.

Jeremy Fraser, the Cross River Partnership chairman, says: "The Deputy Prime Minister's initiative is the best opportunity in a generation to get an integrated river transport system on the Thames."

The East End of London is becoming one of Britain's most appealing — and money-spinning — international tourist attractions. Tourism groups say more hotels are needed to accommodate the increasing number of visitors wanting to discover its delights, from Victorian back streets to the Hackney Empire variety theatre. Planning consent has been granted for four hotels in the London Docklands, including a luxury hotel at Canary Wharf, but more are needed, says TourEast London — a partnership of 22 private and public organisations set up to promote tourism in the area.

The organisation says at least three million tourists — half from overseas and half under the age of 35 — injected more than £26 million into the local economy last year.

Trisha O'Reilly, of TourEast London, says: "We are finding that tourists, particularly those who have already been to London, who want to scratch beneath the surface of the capital and discover something new, are going east." Suirry Crouch, TourEast London's chairman, adds: "Tourism is good news for the people of East London."

Rivals keep the show going

Tony Dawe on how the strike-hit airline is trying to get passengers to their destination

TRAVEL AGENTS, British Airways' rivals and the airline's reservations staff were working flat out yesterday to keep passengers flying as cabin crew began a three-day strike. The message from all of them was that most travellers booked on the 145 flights cancelled yesterday were reaching their destinations after some delays and diversions but that the strike could soon cause graver problems.

Their advice to passengers booked directly with the airline is to keep in touch with its telephone hotline and other emergency information networks and for others to keep in regular contact with their travel agents.

They said that though the strike ends officially on Saturday at 06:00 there would be a knock-on effect over the weekend.

The worst problems yesterday affected flights to and from Heathrow, all domestic services were cancelled and many European and long-haul flights were also affected. Nine long-haul services from Gatwick were cancelled. Kate Aldridge of Going Places, a

leading high street travel agent, said: "The best advice we can give passengers is to keep close to their travel agent or British Airways. We can keep them posted as the situation changes and arrange to switch them to other carriers if their flight is cancelled or to offer a full refund if the alternative is unacceptable. Those clients planning to travel with BA over the weekend should also contact us."

A spokeswoman for Thomas Cook said that the agency had used its database to call up details of all customers booked on BA during the strike, inform them of the dispute and make other arrangements where necessary.

"People travelling to the Caribbean, for example, have had to transfer to flights that go via Miami," she said, "but only three bookings have been switched to tomorrow. Those affected

have been offered overnight accommodation at our expense. Only two people have cancelled their journeys, and they have received full refunds."

The potential chaos has been averted by rival airlines, including American Airlines and Air Canada, putting on extra flights and by others, among them Lufthansa and Swissair, increasing their capacity. British Midland expected to carry a record 22,000 passengers yesterday and had increased capacity at Heathrow.

Travel agents say, however, that as the peak holiday season approaches, this extra capacity will not be available if the strike is repeated.

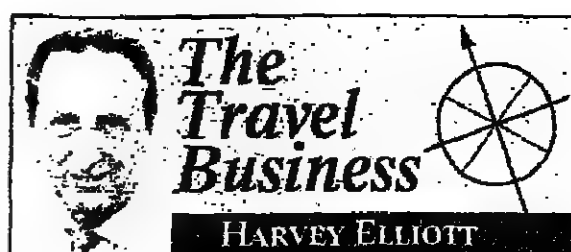
BA also put larger aircraft on some European flights that did operate and consolidated long-haul services so that, for example, passengers booked on the Seattle flight that was cancelled were re-routed via Los Angeles. The airline

also booked seats on Eurostar services to Paris and Brussels and staff met passengers at Waterloo to exchange flight bookings for rail tickets. Train tickets were also offered because of cancelled domestic flights and the airline arranged for those losing out on Channel Islands flights to be taken by coach to Portsmouth ferries.

Air London International, which arranges small charter planes, reported two bookings within an hour as the strike began to take effect. For those desperate to avoid cancelling meetings, the company can offer everything from an air taxi for seven to Edinburgh and back for £2,800 to a Citation jet, also with seven seats, to and from Copenhagen for £5,400.

Most BA passengers will just have to hope, however, that their flights escape disruption. For the latest information, they should either:

- Phone the hotline on 0800 727800; Check ITV Teletext page 380 or
- Connect to BA's Internet Web site: www.british-airways.com/strike



BA is plunging towards disaster

Few civil aircraft crash because of a single problem. Many experts insist that none has ever been brought down by one event.

As the painstaking search of crash investigators has shown repeatedly, even if there is a large and obvious mechanical defect, this one problem is not enough to send a modern aircraft plunging to disaster. Several factors must combine.

Today British Airways is plunging to disaster. The strike by cabin crew is the result of a complex chain of events, all of which should have been avoided.

When the strike ends, the damage caused to the airline will take months, possibly years, to repair. To keep the healing time to a minimum and to prevent a repeat, someone must look in detail at what went wrong on both sides — and both sides must listen.

Despite the upset and inconvenience that the strikes are causing, the sympathy of most passengers is with the cabin crew. They are not typical Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) strikers. The men tend to be gentle, the women attentive and all-smiling. Their job is repetitive and difficult, with long hours and a permanent need to look happy, even when they feel jet-lagged. They are not particularly well paid and the work is no longer considered glamorous.

The facts, however, are stacked in BA's favour. The airline has given a guarantee that no one will lose money under the proposed pay restructuring programme. For many staff, the switch from allowances to basic pay will bring salary rises of up to 24 per cent and improve their pension and bonus schemes.

The deal has been accepted by about a quarter of the

12,000 cabin crew who belong to another union. The vast majority of BA's 50,000 staff have accepted inferior offers. So why are they on strike?

As someone once said: "Prejudice is a good time-saver. It enables you to reach a conclusion without considering the facts." This one problem is not enough to send a modern aircraft plunging to disaster. Several factors must combine.

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'Damage caused to the airline will take months to repair'



Howzat? Players appeal for a wicket during a cricket match in the grounds of the Chateau des Ormes in Brittany

French cricket a big hit

Peter Foster finds a very English influence in the heart of France

CRICKET, that quintessentially English pastime, has found an unlikely home in the grounds of a 16th-century French chateau.

Yvonnick de la Chesnais, whose family have owned the Chateau des Ormes in Brittany since shortly after the Revolution, has introduced the game at the heart of the local expatriate community.

The cricket ground, built at a cost of about £250,000 (about £25,000 on M de la Chesnais's back lawn), is part of the Domaine des Ormes leisure complex which includes a championship-length golf course, a three-star hotel and swimming pool.

M de la Chesnais opened the grounds of the chateau as a campsite 21 years ago and it has become a popular destination for family holidays through Eurocamp. Every weekend the fledgling Cricket Club des Ormes takes on local opposition and touring sides, while baffled Frenchmen drink wine on the boundary.

Leslie Pullen, an MCC member and former businessman who moved to Brittany three years ago, started the club after developing severe cricket withdrawal symptoms. Mr Pullen, who played for Addiscombe Cricket Club in Croydon, says someone suggested that a cricket club would help M de la Chesnais to attract business to the hotel.

"We've never looked back," he says. "The only person who was not too delighted was my wife. When we came to France she thought she had finally escaped the game."

The club plays on an artificial wicket and the ground is in a picturesque setting, with trees and a lake, to rival any of the great English country house grounds. The team have entertained local sides including Chateau Thoiry and Saumur, for whom Mick Jagger is often found bowling his off-spinners.

The chateau took advice on the ground from Derek Underwood, the former Kent and England left-arm spinner, who is also patron of the club. This month he and Pat Pocock, another former England spinner, will bring an invitation XI to play the Club des Ormes.

The average des Ormes team sheet reads like a roll call for the Foreign Legion. The team includes a Pole, a South African, a Frenchman and several Englishmen. One player, Jurek Riegl, a Pole who learnt cricket in what was then Southern Rhodesia, drives 100 miles most weekends from Nantes, where he teaches English: "It is a long journey but I have been dreaming of playing cricket ever since I moved to France. Now at last we have the chance," he says.

The Cricket Club des Ormes is not content to be the mere folly of a French aristocrat. There are plans to build a traditional English pavilion and to introduce French children to the MCC's very popular Kwik Cricket. Although this does not quite amount to a youth policy, home-grown French talent may yet grace the cricket field of the Chateau des Ormes.

Britannia sprouts German offshoot

By Harvey Elliott

GERMAN tourists will be able to fly direct to the sun on British jets this autumn after the setting-up of a German subsidiary of Britain's biggest charter airline.

Britannia Airways, which is now recruiting 200 cabin staff in Germany for the new airline, claims it will undercut existing German airlines by at least 25 per cent.

Two Boeing 767 long-range aircraft, carrying the familiar red, white and blue colours and with the Britannia emblem on the tail, will fly to destinations popular with Germans such as Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

Under new European aviation laws any airline can fly

any route within the Community. But when Britannia offered flights to the Dominican Republic from Germany last year it was barred from boarding passengers at Frankfurt airport as German airlines campaigned to stop it operating.

Eventually Britannia won a legal action but was told that because the flight destinations were outside Europe it would have to land in Britain first.

Now it has decided to create a German-owned airline — Britannia Airways GmbH. It has signed a long-term contract with FTA, Germany's fastest-growing tour operator, and will fly direct to the Caribbean and South America — provided applications for a licence are granted.

Roger Burnell, managing director of Britannia, says that British charter carriers are far more efficient than German airlines and can offer higher standards of service. "German holidaymakers are becoming increasingly price sensitive but they also quite rightly expect high standards of operational performance, reliability and service," he said. "Britannia Airways GmbH will be modelled on our UK operation."

The Dutch airline KLM has taken full control of Air UK, buying up the remaining 55 per cent of the British airline.

The last great Expo of the century

By Tony Dawe

TRAVEL companies are finalising plans to take British tourists to the last great world exhibition of the 20th century, which will open its doors on a redeveloped docklands site in Lisbon next May.

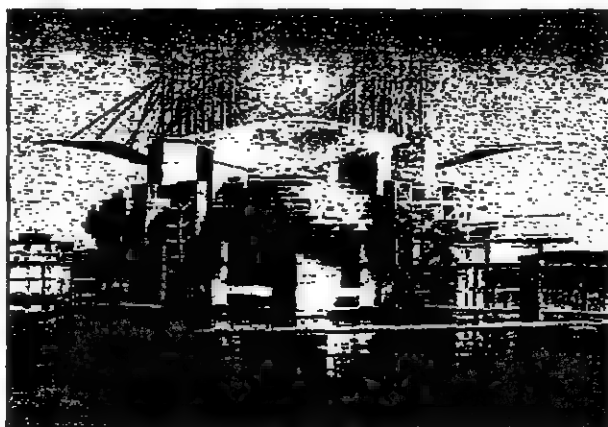
Cresta Holidays, Crystal Holidays and a new player, Extra Holidays, will offer tickets to Expo 98 as part of city-break packages to the Portuguese capital, while other operators will combine the exhibition with golfing trips and beach holidays.

Organisers of the event, with the theme "The Oceans: The Heritage of the Future", hopes to attract 8.5 million visitors over four months. It is one of the most ambitious projects mounted by the Portuguese since the voyages of discovery 500 years ago, which the Expo will celebrate.

An oceanarium with Europe's largest tank and four smaller ones will be the central attraction. The organisers plan a grand morning parade through the grounds, a laser show in the evening and street theatre throughout the day.

The UK will be among a record 135 countries and organisations staging exhibitions in two international pavilions. Another pavilion will take visitors on a multimedia voyage to the future.

"We shall be featuring the



Expo 98: an oceanarium will be the central attraction

exhibition in next year's brochure and believe it will provide a strong reason for people planning to visit the city to stay an extra night," says Jane Williams, Cresta's marketing manager.

"Expo is also having a knock-on effect with a huge reconstruction programme taking place in the city, including improvements to the road and metro network and repairs to historic buildings."

Philip Gill, managing director of Extra Holidays, says: "We will be building Expo into packages to the city and to the resorts around it and offering tickets to the event, either for one or three days or just to see an evening's entertainment."

Tourists planning to visit

the city will have an additional choice of travel. AB Airlines, run by Brian Beal, a former Brynmor Airways director, and financed by City investors, has started twice-daily services between Gatwick and Lisbon.

The airline is undercutting BA and Air Portugal by offering £114 return fares for visits including a Saturday night and £399 business class returns. Extra Holidays has taken advantage of the fares to offer two-night breaks to the city for £149 a person.

"We hope to attract travellers from Portugal as well as from Britain by offering the first flight into the UK every morning from Lisbon with good connections to long-haul flights," says Beal.

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Duty to maintain highway not absolute

Cross v Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council

Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Millett and Sir Ralph Gibson
[Judgment June 27]

The duty to maintain the highway, imposed on the local authority by section 41 of the Highways Act 1980, was not a duty to keep the highway at all times entirely clear of surface water, snow and ice. The duty to maintain was limited to taking reasonable steps to prevent the formation of ice, or to deal with the ice promptly after it did form.

The Court of Appeal stated that the duty to maintain the highway, imposed on the local authority by section 41 of the Highways Act 1980, was not a duty to keep the highway at all times entirely clear of surface water, snow and ice. The duty to maintain was limited to taking reasonable steps to prevent the formation of ice, or to deal with the ice promptly after it did form.

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some way, so that it was limited, for example, to taking reasonable steps to prevent the formation of ice, or to deal with the ice promptly after it did form. If there was any such qualification, what further facts beyond the mere presence of ice must the plaintiff prove to establish a breach of duty, subject always to the statutory defence? And if the duty was so qualified, why was the defence expressed in the way that it was in section 59?

His Lordship noted first that the council's duty under section 41 was simply to "maintain the highway". There was no express reference to safety or to the absence of danger.

But the cause of action which arose when the duty was broken required proof of injury caused by the failure to maintain, and the risk of injury must have been foreseeable by the council. So for the purposes of civil liability the duty was to maintain the highway so as to exclude the foreseeable risk of injury resulting from its use.

The majority judgments in *Hegdon v Kent County Council* [1978] 1 QB 343 recognised that "maintain" might have a wider meaning than the common law obligation to "repair" and "keep in repair". Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, had expressed the contrary view, both by reference to the legislative history and as a matter of statutory interpretation.

His Lordship agreed with the majority but doubted whether the practical difference between the two views was as great as might be supposed.

That did not mean, however, that the mere presence of water on the road surface, whether after heavy rainfall or as the result of some other form of flooding, indicated that the highway had not been properly maintained or kept in good repair. No one suggested that it did.

Something more had to be proved for a breach of duty to be established, and that would normally mean that the construction

of the road was inadequate to deal with a known risk of dangerous conditions which flooding might create.

Snow and ice presented a different problem. They affected the surface of the highway and created a foreseeable risk of injury, but they could not be prevented or guarded against by the proper design and construction of the road, as flooding was by the construction of drains.

They required preventive or ameliorative measures such as gritting and sanding, which could be described as maintenance but not as keeping the road in good repair.

Again, his Lordship agreed with the majority judgments in *Hegdon* that the duty to maintain the highway did include maintenance of that kind. Heavy snow and also, perhaps, excessive ice could be said to obstruct the highway for the purposes of section 150 of the 1980 Act, but it was not easy to say that snow or ice which did not prevent or restrict use of the highway, even though rendering passage along it more risky, was an obstruction of that sort. Like surface water, however, the mere presence of snow and ice did not establish a breach of the duty to maintain.

Thus, although the duty to maintain was absolute, rather than a duty to take reasonable care, the nature of the duty was established by the judgment in *Burnside v Emerson* [1968] 1 WLR 1490.

It was to construct a proper drainage system and to maintain it in the system in operation. The highway authority's performance could only be measured by reasonable standards.

To that extent, a concept of reasonableness applied, but that

was not to say that the duty was limited to taking reasonable care. There was an absolute duty to achieve a certain result, even though reasonable standards applied in establishing what the result must be.

As regarded snow and ice, and apart from the special case where ice was due to excessive surface water which should not have been allowed to accumulate, in his Lordship's judgment a similar concept applied. The duty to maintain included taking preventive or clearance measures which were sufficient to keep the surface reasonably safe.

That meant (a) what measures were sufficient would depend in part on what use of the highway could be anticipated, and by whom; and (b) that if no or insufficient measures were taken within a reasonable time, and injury was caused thereby, then the plaintiff might establish at least a prima facie breach of duty under section 41. The authority could then rely, if it chose to do so, on the statutory defence under section 59.

That analysis did not, in his Lordship's judgment, have the effect of reversing the statutory burden of proof, as Mr Justice Boreham in *Barlett v Department of Transport* [1984] 83 LGR 579 feared that it might. Nor did it mean that the duty ceased to be absolute, for the reasons given above.

Moreover, there was no contradiction, in his Lordship's judgment, between asserting a duty to achieve a certain result, and yet allowing a reasonable time for that result to be achieved.

Parallels might be drawn in that respect with the *Factortame* cases referred to by Lord Justice Goff in *Hegdon* and with the continuing warranty of seaworthiness which a shipowner might give under a time charterparty. Even though the warranty was absolute, in the event of a breakdown the ship-

owner might have a reasonable time within which to restore the vessel to her seaworthy state.

But the parallels need not be exact, because the council was liable for a statutory tort, and in his Lordship's judgment it was abundantly clear that the liability created by section 41 was to that effect.

The matter might be tested in the following way: suppose the council was in good repair, perhaps because of unforeseeable subsidence, occurred. The highway authority must repair the damage within a reasonable time, and if the need was urgent then the period could be very short.

In his Lordship's view, there would not be an immediate breach of section 41, at the moment when the damage occurred and before remedial or preventive action could be carried out. The majority view in *Hegdon* supported the practical application of section 41 in the way his Lordship had suggested.

In the present case, the judge erred in asking in relation to liability under section 41 a general question which effectively was equivalent to asking whether the council was negligent, or not. The correct and more limited question was: did the evidence establish that sufficient time had elapsed to make it prima facie unreasonable for the authority to have failed to take remedial measures?

It seemed to his Lordship that only one answer was possible: it could not be said that it was prima facie unreasonable of the council not to have taken remedial or preventive measures before the plaintiff suffered her unfortunate accident at the time when the did.

Lord Justice Millett and Sir Ralph Gibson delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Hammond Suddards, Leeds; Winnard & Colquhoun, Dewsbury.

July 1993 he claimed reduced earnings allowance. In October 1993 the medical appeal tribunal increased the assessment to 20 per cent disability.

The social security tribunal upheld the adjudication officer's decision that Mr Patterson was not entitled to benefit for his disability beyond three months prior to the date of his claim and did not accept that the absence of a firm diagnosis or assessment for the prescribed disease amounted to good cause.

The commissioner allowed Mr Patterson's appeal.

Mr Patterson started seeing his general practitioner in 1983 about a problem with his nose and breathing. In June 1993 the adjudicating medical authority assessed Mr Patterson as 5 per cent disabled for life as from January 1990.

In March 1994 the adjudication officer found Mr Patterson was entitled to reduced earnings allowance from August 1985 to June 1992. The appeal tribunal dismissed Mr Patterson's appeal.

His Lordship said that there was no attempt by the Social Security Commissioner to explain how he was satisfied there was good cause other than his reasoning that, until an assessment was made, the claimant was not in a position to make a claim.

In his Lordship's judgment, the commissioner was only in error. Good cause could not automatically exist simply because the relevant assessment of disability had not yet been made.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT said that regulation 19 imposed time limits in relation to a number of different benefits and permitted those limits to be exceeded where the claimant proved that there was good cause in effect for exceeding them.

It would be inconsistent with the structure of that regulation if the lack of a feature or condition common to all claims for a benefit were itself capable of amounting to good cause. If that were so the good cause would not be a reason specific to that claimant for exceeding the limit.

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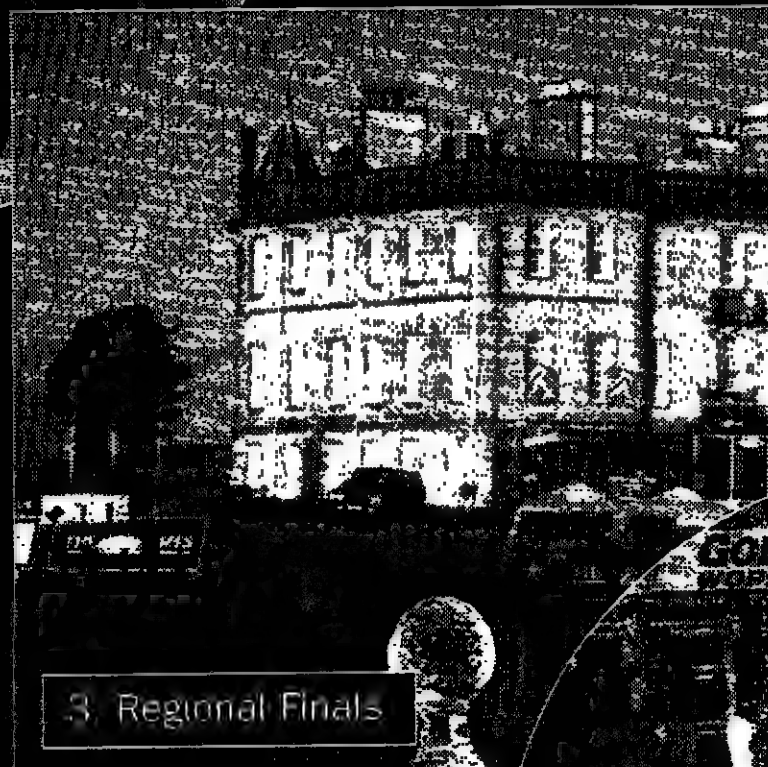
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Haeggman record shows he has not missed the train

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

TOM LEHMAN looked a picture of contentment, tanned, relaxed and with a smile on his face. "How could you not be happy on a day like this?" he asked rhetorically. "This is a phenomenal course, the weather is wonderful and I played well. All in all it was an A-plus day."

In those three crisp sentences, Lehman summed up his first round, a 65, in the Gulfstream Loch Lomond World Invitational. He might, though, have been speaking on behalf of any number of colleagues who heaped praise on this beautifully-sited course that looked more ravishing than ever beneath clear sky and strong sunshine yesterday.

There had been an intention to complete the week without any reference to the bony banks of Loch Lomond, but the banks were so bony and the place looked so beguiling that it proved impossible to resist.

Lehman is two strokes behind Joakim Haeggman, who was awoken at 4.45am, arrived at the course at 5.40, began play at 7.10 and, 4½ hours later, signed for a score that was a course record yet included three bogeys, which came in the space of six holes on the way home.

It is not possible to play as well as this without each department of the game being in good order. Haeggman missed nothing, including one green in the correct figures and then when on the putting surfaces, he was deadly. Haeggman had 27 putts, which is fewer than in any round since May, and that made all the difference.

Loch Lomond is a stroke-maker's course. It is not possible to budge your way around it. It rewards players who execute each stroke correctly. If they fail to do this, then they pay a price. This is

why there were so many bogeys, even among the low rounds. Lehman was one of few players to have only pars or better.

Even so, on a day without a breath of wind and when the flags were placed in what Colin Montgomerie described as very, very generous positions, the course was left without much with which to counter the players. Haeggman's 63 was exceptional, but as Lehman pointed out: "There should be low scores today. The fairways are

in the tournaments they are winning."

Haeggman's problems began when he dislocated his left shoulder blade and cracked two ribs playing ice hockey in Sweden in 1994. Since then, he has occasionally needed pain-killing injections to allow him to practice as intensely as he likes and a little of the edge has vanished from his game. Some of that desire to be involved in golf has died down, too.

At the mention of Haeggman, a smile appeared on the face of Faldo, who had a 67. "The great fisherman," Faldo joked. "He's disappeared to the rivers of the world."

"I am 28 this autumn and I feel I have a few years yet," Haeggman said. "I feel I haven't missed the train. It is still something to jump on to."

The only flaw in Haeggman's day was to be accused by Montgomerie of being in a slow group. "The first three groups are terribly important," Montgomerie said. "The first group was 4hr 10min. That is fine; that is inside the allotted 4hr 20min; but the second group — Haeggman, Gary Emerson and Joakim [Rask] — took 4hr 30min. To be 20 minutes behind the first group is too long. We have got to impose stroke penalties. If that happened to me, I would say 'Well done' to whoever policed the situation."

Haeggman disagreed. "That's typical Montgomerie," he said. "Would he be complaining if he had taken 63? We were not warned. After the 7th, we were told to speed up, but that was because the group in front of us had slowed down."

John Daly, the 1995 Open champion, yesterday confirmed that "personal health" problems would prevent him from competing at Royal Troon next week.

ON MONDAY IN THE TIMES



A 16-page guide to the Open Championship

holding, the greens are holding. The course has no defences.

Time was when Haeggman seemed in the thick of everything. He won the Spanish Open in 1993, beating Ernie Els and Nick Faldo, became the first Swede to represent Europe in the Ryder Cup team and Bernard Gallacher thought that he would become a player of substance. "I was up there ranked with Ernie [Els], Phil [Mickelson] and all the boys of '93," Haeggman said. "Now I can't get started

those days when the emotions get the better of you and I could not control the shots."

So far, Sorenstam, 26 and of breathtaking composure, who flew to Oregon in Callaway's corporate jet, gives no sign of thinking that things are anything but wonderful. She conceded that there was a lot of attention, but in her own quiet way, she claimed to be enjoying it. "It's a lot of fun," she said. "I have the opportunity to do something nobody has. That's a great challenge. If I don't achieve it, as long as I know that I gave 100 per cent, that's all that matters."

Sorenstam, who married David Eick earlier this year, seems completely at ease with herself. She also has the comfort of knowing that her game, like the course, is in great shape.

She has won four times already this season, been second three times and third twice. She is leading the money-list with \$779,862 (£485,000) and, most important to her, is top of the scoring average table.

She has won the Vare Trophy, for low scoring, for the past two years and uses a computer to assess all the facts and figures of a round and to

pinpoint her strengths and weaknesses. Even after her victory at Pine Needles, she was anxious that Pia Nilsson, Sweden's head coach, should write her customary post-tournament evaluation, outlining what was good and what could be improved.

It is that ability to concentrate on the particular that makes Sorenstam such a formidable Open machine. Judy Bell, the president of the United States Golf Association, described Sorenstam as "exceptional. She never gets

too far ahead of herself and that's what it takes to be a great champion. She keeps her focus."

Laura Davies, usurped by Sorenstam as world No. 1, said: "Annika's as cool as anybody I've ever seen. I'm sure she'll be worrying about it inside, but you wouldn't know."

Davies did not help her own chances by slicing deep into her left index finger with a bread knife on Tuesday morning, but she knew where she wanted to be come Sunday evening. "If I finish one shot ahead of Annika, I'll probably be holding that trophy," she said.

One of the new Callaway advertisements takes a gentle humorous swipe at the Tiger Woods hype, along the lines of one player dominating professional golf like no other over the past year, yet still finding locker-rooms that she cannot get into.

Woods is very much here in spirit (and materially — Nike's headquarters are near here), for it was on this very course that he created golfing history last August, by winning his third consecutive US Amateur Championship. He also won the US Junior Amateur three times and the third victory, in 1993, was in Oregon, which is bidding fair to become golf's "three-peat" state.

With 29 riders from 12 nations competing. These include Jos Lansink, from Holland, the winner of the Volvo World Cup in 1994 and a 1992 Olympic team gold medal-winner. Joe Fargis, of the United States, the 1984 Olympic champion, Peter Charles, the European champion, from Ireland, and Mark Todd, of New Zealand.

The richest prize is the King George V Gold Cup on Sunday, for which the winner receives £15,000. Whitaker and Welham, who beat the best in Europe to win in Aachen two weeks ago, and Geoff Billington, with his Windsor Grand Prix winner, It's Otto, are the leading British contenders.

Skelton, the winner last year on Cathleen, will have his work cut out if he is to succeed again this week. His intended ride, Tinker's Boy, is only eight and, although he has already impressed on the international circuit, achieving the only clear round for the Great Britain team in the La Baule Nations Cup in May, he will be one of the least experienced horses in the international field.



Haeggman lines up his putt at the 17th on his way to a course record of 63

FIRST ROUND

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

63: J. Haeggman (Swe) 65: T. Lehman (US), 66: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 67: P. Faldo (Eng), 68: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 69: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 70: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 71: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 72: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 73: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 74: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 75: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 76: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 77: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 78: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 79: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 80: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 81: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 82: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 83: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 84: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 85: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 86: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 87: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 88: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 89: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 90: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 91: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 92: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 93: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 94: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 95: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 96: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 97: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 98: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 99: J. Sorenstam (Swe), 100: J. Sorenstam (Swe).

ATHLETICS

Barnes has success in the bank

By JOHN GOODBODY

MATT BARNES, the 1994 AAA indoor 3,000 metres champion, led home more than 10,000 runners in the Chase Corporate Challenge Run in Battersea Park last night. Barnes, 29, representing Barclays Bank, finished in 16min 22sec, 15sec ahead of Nick Weatheridge, with Dave Dugley, another NatWest competitor, a further 9sec back.

Barnes, who will be running in either the 1,500 metres or 5,000 metres in the world championship trials in Birmingham this weekend, never looked troubled as he sped round the sinuous 3½-mile course, which is run partly on road and partly on grass.

He tracked Simon Fairbrother, who has represented Britain over 1,500 metres in the World Cup, for much of the first two miles and then broke clear to win easily. He said afterwards: "I felt reasonably comfortable at two miles and just tried to keep consistent form towards the end of the race."

More than 500 companies entered competitors for an event that also takes place in 18 other cities in the world. The final is in New York on October 4.

Gurkha is on target at Bisley

THE Royal Gurkha Rifles, which dominated Army rifle shooting at Bisley during much of the Eighties and early Nineties, was back in challenging form yesterday when Lance Corporal Beindrakus Maga became the first Gurkha to win since 1990.

He did so by beating Major Angus McLeod by eight points, with Corporal Iain Chambers another five behind in third place.

Golf: A magnificent round of 69, three under par, by Elaine Radcliffe helped England into sixth spot in the strokeplay qualifying section of the European women's team championship at the Nord Center club in Finland yesterday, one stroke adrift of Spain and France, the joint-leaders.

Bowls: Somerset, the holders of the John's Trophy, and Norfolk, whom they beat in the final last year, have qualified to meet in the semi-finals of the women's national inter-county championship at Royal Leamington Spa, on August 4, after beating Wiltshire and Oxfordshire, respectively.

Rugby union: A Wales XV recorded the third win of their North American tour early yesterday when they defeated a United States development XV 55-23 in San Francisco.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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CRICKET: SMITH'S BEST EFFORTS ARE IN VAIN AS HAMPSHIRE PAY FOR SPORTING APPROACH IN NATWEST TROPHY

Glamorgan grateful for Udal's generosity

By JACK BAILEY

SOUTHAMPTON (Glamorgan won toss; Glamorgan beat Hampshire by two wickets)

ONE moment of rare generosity cost Hampshire dearly yesterday. Had Adrian Shaw not been called back by Shaun Udal after he had been given run out with his score on five, Hampshire could well have been celebrating a relatively comfortable win. Instead, acting under strong pressure from Steve James, Shaw's partner at the time, Udal — who said afterwards: "I thought good sportsmanship should prevail" — did the decent thing. Sometimes sportsmanship pays a heavy price.

Shaw went on to figure large as Glamorgan's sole home with two balls to spare. He and James shared a match-winning partnership of 76 in ten overs that took the Welsh county within a few runs of victory. Shaw was scored when James won the man of the match award for his 69. It could so easily have gone to Robin Smith, of Hampshire, and, had the result been different, it surely would have. Smith's 119 was his seventh hundred in the competition, it was the mainstay of his team's effort and, in making it, he equalled the achievement of another Hampshire batsman — one Chris Smith, no less.

Not until the later stages of their innings, when Smith caught his second wind and Udal confirmed his status as a one-day batsman, did Hampshire threaten to set Glamorgan a daunting task. These two added most of the 86 runs put on during the last ten overs of Hampshire's innings. Glamorgan wilted like daffodils in the late spring, even after Smith was out, and Udal and Aymes, running like stags, kept up the pressure.

Before that, Smith was solid but not finding the gaps easily, especially against Croft, whose ended with figures of one for 12. Otherwise, he was comfortable enough, occasionally unleashing his characteristic cover slash from the good-length ball.

It was Thomas who had struck first. Hayden could plead bewilderment as the prime cause of his downfall for, when he came on for the day's ninth over, Thomas bowled wide on either side of the wicket with each of his first three balls. A bemused Hayden had, by then, forgotten the answer to the straight one and, half-forward, was leg-before.

Laney mixed the occasional excellent forcing stroke with a number of thick edges through the slip region and he was chasing against the bit when he tried to drive a ball that was not quite there, holding out comfortably at deep square leg — this immediately after Smith had sent up the crashing drive through the covers off the back foot.

Smith's century came from 135 balls. It included a long six over mid-wicket off Cottee and ten fours, and he added a further four boundaries before he was finally caught at mid-wicket.

By the time he was at last out, Hampshire were in sight of the magical 300. Udal was in full command and saw to it that Hampshire's 302 was achieved.

Thanks to admirable, unhurried, yet forceful batting by Morris and Dale, Glamorgan made an excellent beginning to their quest for 303 runs to win. Croft, who has made a speciality of pinch-hitting this season, left almost before he had taken guard, but the next wicket did not fall until 128 runs had been scored from 27 overs. Dale's 71 from 95 balls had put Glamorgan in the hunt and an innings of similar tempo from Morris ensured that they stayed there.

Then Maynard clipped in and, finally, James, then Shaw, saw them home. Shaw's reprieve was a result of Udal not gathering a throw-in before breaking the wicket with Shaw out of his ground. On he went, hitting Renshaw for a flat six over extra cover, during an over that cost 15 vital runs and, although James and Thomas bit the dust, Shaw remained steadfast and productive to the end.



Smith strikes one of his trademark cuts on the way to 119 for Hampshire at Southampton yesterday

Sutcliffe's lone stand cannot deny Yorkshire

By RICHARD HOBSON

LEICESTER (Yorkshire won toss; Yorkshire beat Leicestershire by 128 runs)

GRACE Road witnessed some splendid cricket yesterday, too much of it flowed from one side for the game to be competitive — not that Leicestershire's supreme efforts will concern Yorkshire, whose ambitions of improving on last season, when they reached the semi-finals of the NatWest Trophy, appear well grounded.

When the counties had met on the same ground in the Axa Life League four days ago, Leicestershire totalled 298 for nine from 40 overs. The contest was tied. This time, chasing 311 in 60, they collapsed to 14 for three and only Sutcliffe among the top order emerged with any credit thereafter as Leicestershire were dismissed for 182 with 12.4 overs remaining.

Wells and Whitaker were beaten for pace by Gough before Maddy chopped on attempting to steer Silverwood to third man. Johnson scored equally low marks for artistic impression in top-ordering a reverse sweep against Stump. Smith clipped to mid-wicket.

Sutcliffe, a tall left-hander born in Leeds, and Mason added 87 in 15 overs before the latter lost his off stump to Hartley. In marrying style and aggression, Sutcliffe was approaching a second successive hundred in the competition when he yoked himself by moving out of the crease to Stump. He compiled 90 from 125 balls with most of his runs accrued in an atmosphere of impending defeat.

In contrast, three of Yorkshire's batsmen passed 50 and the innings included as many partnerships that could be described as substantial. Moxon and McGrath overcame a testing new-ball spell from Mully and Mills in posting 66 before McGrath pushed ineffectually at an outswinger from Parsons. Byas inside-edged on to his stumps and Lehmann drove a wide ball to cover.

By the time that Moxon became Parsons's third victim, White was approaching his form of last Sunday, when he scored 148 from the same attack. This time, he finished unbeaten four short of a second century, having faced 102 balls. White only received the man-of-the-match award from David Gower, though Parsons must have pushed him a close second for a belligerent 69.

Adams and Malcolm in no mood for mercy

By JOHN THICKNESSE

DERBY (Northamptonshire won toss; Derbyshire beat Northamptonshire by 144 runs)

HAMMERED by Chris Adams and Kim Barnett when they bowled and torn apart by Devon Malcolm when they batted, Northamptonshire were overwhelmed at Derby in the NatWest Trophy second round yesterday. From the way that they played, they could have expected nothing better.

Impressive as Derbyshire looked, there is a good chance that they were flattered. The truth was that, until Pemberton and Snape added 97 for the Northamptonshire seventh wicket, Derbyshire were offered no resistance.

Malcolm was made man of the match, taking five wickets in his first six overs and seven wickets overall for 35 runs. On many other days, though, the award would have gone to Adams, whose 101 gave Derbyshire a grip that was unlikely to be broken.

Barnett also played some great strokes but that he faced 39 more balls than Adams, 156 compared with 117, told the story of the latter's impact. Adams hit ten fours and a six and got out, it seemed, only because he had had enough of the stupefying heat.

When Bailey put Derbyshire in on winning the toss, it looked as though he hoped that the new ball would swing. Mohammad Akram, Taylor, Curran and Pemberton used it in such an amateurish way, however, that well inside an hour as likely as explanation appeared to be that there was no target that Bailey could be confident of defending had Northamptonshire batted.

Among other sins, his seam bowlers conceded 17 wides in 15 overs, a fair indication of their lack of control.

In 40 minutes, Malcolm vividly destroyed any chance that Northamptonshire had of scoring 325. He flattened Warren's off stump with his third ball, had Loye caught at slip in his second over and Curran in his fifth and in the next dismissed Sales and Walton with successive balls.

At 29 for five, Northamptonshire, having conceded a bigger total than in 33 previous seasons of 60-over cricket, looked in danger of completing an unwanted double by being bowled out for their lowest Gillette or NatWest score. Snape put paid to that with four fours in an over by Aldred.

Anthony delivers a harsh lesson

By BARNEY SPENDER

SHENLEY PARK (first day of three; Pakistan A won toss; MCC, with five wickets in hand, are 157 runs ahead of Pakistan A)

THERE is much talk of Shenley becoming the venue for a national cricket academy designed for the greater good of the English game, but, yesterday, amid the rolling

cornfields and sunshine, it was the cream of Pakistan's youth who were in the classroom and Keith Arthurton, Hampshire's reserve wicket-keeper, the only English-born player taking part and, indeed, the only county player.

Only Saleem Elahi showed any permanence, sticking around for almost three hours for his 53. Anthony, meanwhile, was in fine form, his brisk pace eliciting bounce

and movement and he finished with six for 34.

MCC lost Mark Lavender, the Australian, to the first ball of their reply, but the experienced Test pair of Grant Flower and Arthurton soon put the Pakistanis' measure 119 in perspective. They added 186 for the second wicket in 34 overs before Flower was caught behind. Arthurton marched on to an irresistible hundred from 124 balls.

BASEBALL

CLEVELAND, Ohio: Major league American League National League 1

NEW YORK: Yankees 1, Boston 0. Yankees 2, Boston 1. Yankees 3, Boston 0. Yankees 4, Boston 1. Yankees 5, Boston 0. Yankees 6, Boston 1. Yankees 7, Boston 0. Yankees 8, Boston 1. Yankees 9, Boston 0. Yankees 10, Boston 1. Yankees 11, Boston 0. Yankees 12, Boston 1. Yankees 13, Boston 0. Yankees 14, Boston 1. Yankees 15, Boston 0. Yankees 16, Boston 1. Yankees 17, Boston 0. Yankees 18, Boston 1. Yankees 19, Boston 0. Yankees 20, Boston 1. Yankees 21, Boston 0. Yankees 22, Boston 1. Yankees 23, Boston 0. Yankees 24, Boston 1. Yankees 25, Boston 0. Yankees 26, Boston 1. Yankees 27, Boston 0. Yankees 28, Boston 1. Yankees 29, Boston 0. Yankees 30, Boston 1. Yankees 31, Boston 0. Yankees 32, Boston 1. Yankees 33, Boston 0. Yankees 34, Boston 1. Yankees 35, Boston 0. Yankees 36, Boston 1. Yankees 37, Boston 0. Yankees 38, Boston 1. Yankees 39, Boston 0. Yankees 40, Boston 1. Yankees 41, Boston 0. Yankees 42, Boston 1. Yankees 43, Boston 0. Yankees 44, Boston 1. Yankees 45, Boston 0. 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Briton retains special place in the history of the Tour

Simpson's price for overriding ambition

Chris Boardman wore it for just one day at the start of the Tour de France this year, but there are, it seems, some things more durable than the race leader's yellow jersey.

For the past 30 years, a roadside shrine has marked the spot where Britain's first man to wear the yellow jersey, Tom Simpson, collapsed and died as he fought his way up a 6,000-foot mountain under an unforgiving sun. It is a mark of the respect this Englishman had won in France that not once during those 30 years has that shrine been neglected.

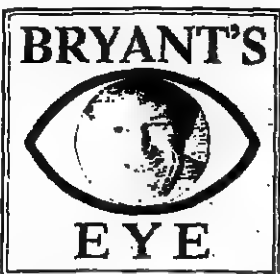
Cyclists pay homage there constantly and the stone is draped with a strange collection of inter-tubes, old water bottles, handkerchiefs, even used brake blocks. So many are the tributes that, once a month, the local council sends a team to clean it up.

Three days from now, as the Tour spins its way from Sautes on its last flatland stage before the mountains, Simpson's widow, Helen, will lead a small family gathering of cyclists to the spot where he fell.

Simpson rode himself to death at 4.35pm on July 13, 1967, during the thirteenth stage of the 2,974-mile Tour. He was 29. His last mumbled words were: "Put me back on my bike."

Since the Tour had begun 15 days before, he had cycled 1,684 miles at an average speed of 22mph and had been allowed just one rest day. When the peloton reached the lower slopes of Mont Ventoux, 88 miles from the start that day in Marseilles, there was a blazing sun, no wind and the thermometers outside the roadside restaurants warned of a temperature of 55C (131F).

The summit of the Ventoux offered no shelter — there are no trees and no bushes on the bleached, parched peak of this extinct volcano — but Simpson would have wanted to be nowhere else in the world. He had left Yorkshire to take on the French at their own game and succeeded. This was his seventh Tour since 1960. His best had been in 1962, when he wore the yellow jersey as race leader and finished sixth. He had taken a bronze medal at the Olympic Games in Melbourne in 1956, carried off the world road racing champion.



ship in Spain in 1965 and had won several of Europe's classic tours. No British cyclist came near him in experience or achievement.

He had also endeared himself to the French public, always ready to ham it up as the Englishman. The French press had dubbed him "Mister Tommy" and, quick to appreciate the value of self-promotion in a highly commercialised sport, Simpson had played the part by appearing in a bowler hat, city suit and rolled umbrella.

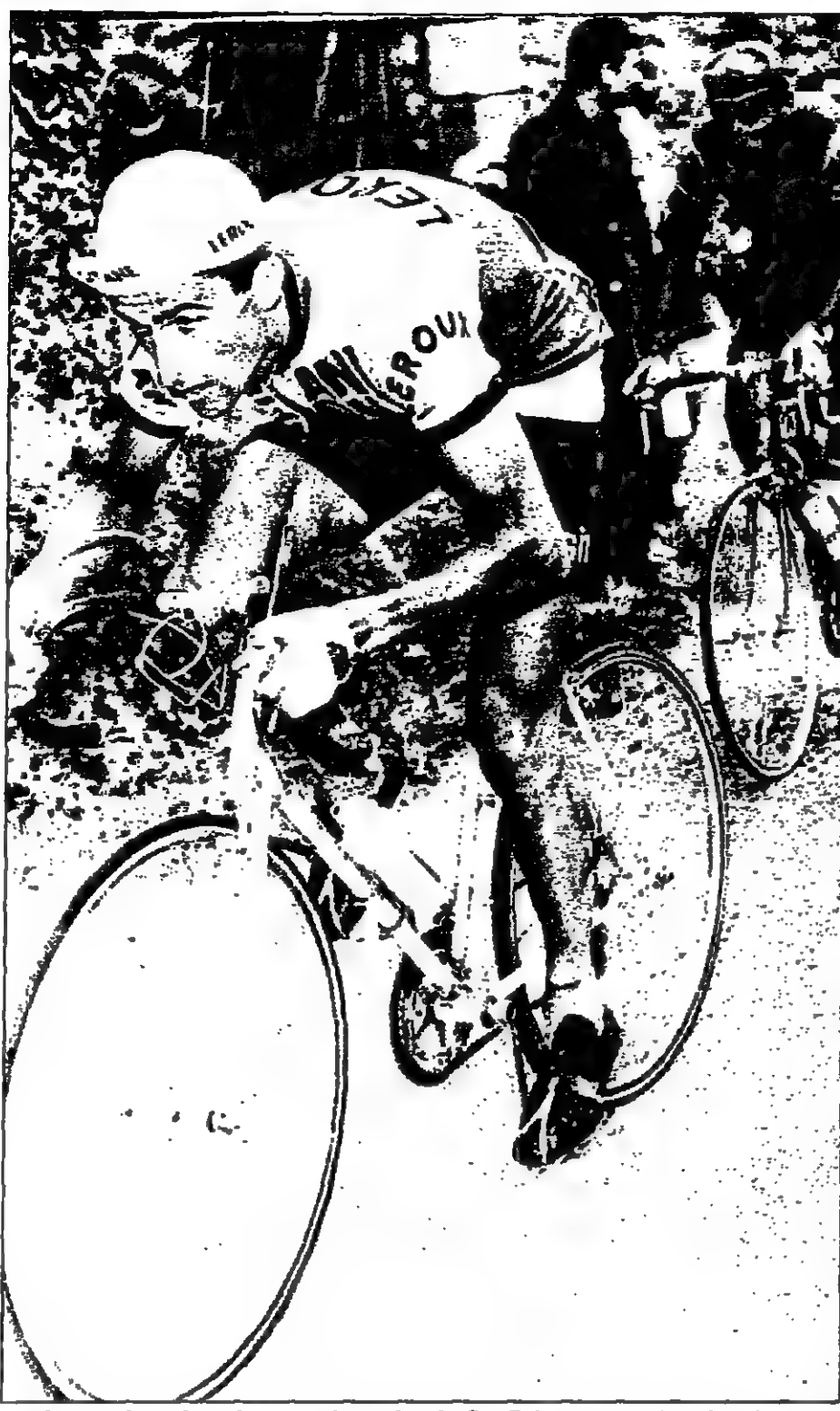
Other Britons before Simpson had ridden in the Tour, but they had been content to sweat out a living as domestiques to the greats. Simpson wanted none of that. He believed that his destiny was to be a champion and he was prepared to do anything to live out his dream. That is why the French loved him; and that is what killed him.

'His last words were: "Put me back on my bike."'

The Tour had always asked the near-impossible of its riders. Even the strongest are likely to feel that their bodies need help as the daily dose of exhaustion and pain kicks in.

Simpson knew what he was up against and he knew, too, how others handled it. "I am riding up there with the stars, then I see their hand go to their mouth and suddenly they are going away from me," he once told Chris Brasher. "I don't want to take dope, I have too much respect for my body — but if I don't win a big event really soon, I shall have to start taking it."

What he took, according to the official reports on his death, were pep pills — amphetamines. In the Sixties, they were common enough, and not just in sport. You would hear tales of students taking them to get through their finals, thinking that they had performed brilliantly when all they had done was to write their name over and



Simpson, in 1962, on the way to becoming the first Briton to wear the yellow jersey

over. Rally drivers would pop them to stay awake through the night stages. Amphetamines were to be used like a whip to a tired horse. Their primary effect is on the psyche: to increase ambition and to dull pain, but they cannot increase the total

available store of energy and, if the normal instincts of survival are numbed, if ambition pushes beyond the limits of safety, then you can simply ride yourself to death.

The subculture of the Tour, which had seduced Simpson into taking pep pills, dealt one

other fatal card that day. Before the era of strict controls on food and drink in the race, competitors grabbed their liquid where they could, raiding cafes or taking bottles from spectators. On the road to the mountain, Simpson snatched a drink and downed it as a gulp. It was undiluted cognac and was said to have contributed to his death.

The day after Simpson's collapse, the Tour began with a minute's silence. The British team decided to go on, wearing black crepe ribbons. As the race restarted, the foreign riders elected that a Briton should win the stage. Barry Hoban, one of Simpson's greatest friends and rivals, was the man who crossed the finish line first.

Two years later, Hoban married Tommy Simpson's widow. He will be at her side this Sunday when she makes her way up the mountain.

JOHN BRYANT



A French doctor struggles to save Simpson after his collapse on the Tour's thirteenth stage in 1967

Moncassin falls short again

FROM JEREMY WHITTLE IN LE PUY DU FOU

NICOLA MINALI, the stage winner in Portsmouth when the Tour de France crossed the Channel in 1994, continued the run of Italian success this year with a half's breadth victory at the end of the fourth stage at Le Puy du Fou over Frederic Moncassin. French cycling's nearly-man.

The drama of Moncassin's fourteenth near miss of the season took centre stage at the semi-ruined chateau in the heart of the Vendee region. "I did everything I could," Moncassin said. "I was well placed and on the right wheel. I know there are other days to come, but it is not easy to win stages in the Tour."

The stage was marred by yet another crash, five kilometres from the finish, that saw splits in the main field further distance some of the favourites from the leaders. For the third time in four days, the principal victim was Alex Zülle, the world time-trial champion, whose injured shoulder continues to plague him and who is now expected to quit the Tour before the race reaches the Pyrenees.

After the pile-up in Brittany on the previous day, debate is raging over the wisdom of

taking a race as tense and competitive as the Tour over some of the narrowest roads of northwest France. Those concerns were reinforced even before the serious racing began, when Fabiano Fontanelli, of Italy, was forced to abandon the race after colliding with a female spectator, who sustained serious head injuries, and Vicente Garcia-Acosta, of Spain, who suffered a broken collar-bone.

Philippe Gaumont, 24, of

France, mounted a solo break shortly after the convoy crossed the Loire estuary at Nantes. With 100 kilometres left, Gaumont, who had started the day more than 11 minutes behind Mario Cipollini, of Italy, the race leader, was within touching distance of the yellow jersey. Cipollini, though, ushered his team forward to bring Gaumont's lead down to a respectable level and his brave effort was finally subdued 30 kilometres from Le Puy du Fou.

A series of counter-attacks followed before the sprinters wound up towards their dash for the line. Chris Boardman, of Great Britain, finished securely in the front group to consolidate his third place overall, which, with Cipollini and Erik Zabel, of Germany, he is bound to fall by the wayside in the mountains, effectively leaving him heading the list of serious contenders.

"I rode at the front as much as I could, which is where I should be," Boardman said. "I didn't know that the finish would be so technically demanding — it was the toughest I've seen yet. At the moment, I am just concentrating on staying upright."

TOUR DETAILS

FOURTH STAGE: Le Puy du Fou to Le Puy du Fou, 120.5 km. Winner: Nicola Minali (ITA) 4:01:15. Second: Alex Zülle (SUI) 4:02:00. Third: Frederic Moncassin (FRA) 4:02:15. Fourth: Chris Boardman (GBR) 4:03:00. Fifth: Mario Cipollini (ITA) 4:03:15. Sixth: Erik Zabel (GER) 4:03:30. Seventh: Tony Martin (GER) 4:04:00. Eighth: Michael Rasmussen (DEN) 4:04:15. Ninth: Jan Ullrich (GER) 4:04:30. Tenth: Bjarne Riis (DEN) 4:04:45. Eleventh: Lance Armstrong (USA) 4:05:00. Twelfth: David Monaghan (USA) 4:05:15. Thirteenth: Greg LeMond (USA) 4:05:30. Fourteenth: Sean Kelly (IRL) 4:05:45. Fifteenth: Mark Cavendish (GBR) 4:06:00. Sixteenth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:06:15. Seventeenth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:06:30. Eighteenth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:06:45. Nineteenth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:07:00. Twentieth: Mark Cavendish (GBR) 4:07:15. Twenty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:07:30. Twenty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:07:45. Twenty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:08:00. Twenty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:08:15. Twenty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:08:30. Twenty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:08:45. Twenty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:09:00. Twenty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:09:15. Twenty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:09:30. Thirtieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:09:45. Thirty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:10:00. Thirty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:10:15. Thirty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:10:30. Thirty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:10:45. Thirty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:11:00. Thirty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:11:15. Thirty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:11:30. Thirty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:11:45. Thirty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:12:00. Fortieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:12:15. Forty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:12:30. Forty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:12:45. Forty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:13:00. Forty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:13:15. Forty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:13:30. Forty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:13:45. Forty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:14:00. Forty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:14:15. Forty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:14:30. Fiftieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:14:45. Fifty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:15:00. Fifty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:15:15. Fifty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:15:30. Fifty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:15:45. Fifty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:16:00. Fifty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:16:15. Fifty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:16:30. Fifty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:16:45. Fifty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:17:00. Sixtieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:17:15. Sixty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:17:30. Sixty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:17:45. Sixty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:18:00. Sixty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:18:15. Sixty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:18:30. Sixty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:18:45. Sixty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:19:00. Sixty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:19:15. Sixty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:19:30. Seventieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:19:45. Seventy-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:20:00. Seventy-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:20:15. Seventy-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:20:30. Seventy-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:20:45. Seventy-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:21:00. Seventy-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:21:15. Seventy-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:21:30. Seventy-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:21:45. Seventy-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:22:00. Eightieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:22:15. Eighty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:22:30. Eighty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:22:45. Eighty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:23:00. Eighty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:23:15. Eighty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:23:30. Eighty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:23:45. Eighty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:24:00. Eighty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:24:15. Eighty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:24:30. Ninetieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:24:45. Ninety-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:25:00. Ninety-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:25:15. Ninety-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:25:30. Ninety-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:25:45. Ninety-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:26:00. Ninety-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:26:15. Ninety-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:26:30. Ninety-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:26:45. Ninety-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:27:00. One hundredth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:27:15. One hundred and first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:27:30. One hundred and second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:27:45. One hundred and third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:28:00. One hundred and fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:28:15. One hundred and fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:28:30. One hundred and sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:28:45. One hundred and seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:29:00. One hundred and eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:29:15. One hundred and ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:29:30. One hundred and tenth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:29:45. One hundred and eleventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:30:00. One hundred and twelfth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:30:15. 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One hundred and thirtieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:34:45. One hundred and thirty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:35:00. One hundred and thirty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:35:15. One hundred and thirty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:35:30. One hundred and thirty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:35:45. One hundred and thirty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:36:00. One hundred and thirty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:36:15. One hundred and thirty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:36:30. One hundred and thirty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:36:45. One hundred and thirty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:37:00. One hundred and fortieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:37:15. One hundred and forty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:37:30. One hundred and forty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:37:45. One hundred and forty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:38:00. One hundred and forty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:38:15. One hundred and forty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:38:30. One hundred and forty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:38:45. One hundred and forty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:39:00. One hundred and forty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:39:15. One hundred and forty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:39:30. One hundred and fiftieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:39:45. One hundred and fifty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:40:00. One hundred and fifty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:40:15. One hundred and fifty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:40:30. One hundred and fifty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:40:45. One hundred and fifty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:41:00. One hundred and fifty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:41:15. One hundred and fifty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:41:30. One hundred and fifty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:41:45. One hundred and fifty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:42:00. One hundred and sixtieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:42:15. One hundred and sixty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:42:30. One hundred and sixty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:42:45. One hundred and sixty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:43:00. One hundred and sixty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:43:15. One hundred and sixty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:43:30. One hundred and sixty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:43:45. One hundred and sixty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:44:00. One hundred and sixty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:44:15. One hundred and sixty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:44:30. One hundred and seventieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:44:45. One hundred and seventy-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:45:00. One hundred and seventy-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:45:15. One hundred and seventy-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:45:30. One hundred and seventy-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:45:45. One hundred and seventy-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:46:00. One hundred and seventy-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:46:15. One hundred and seventy-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:46:30. One hundred and seventy-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:46:45. One hundred and seventy-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:47:00. One hundred and eightieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:47:15. One hundred and eighty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:47:30. One hundred and eighty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:47:45. One hundred and eighty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:48:00. One hundred and eighty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:48:15. One hundred and eighty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:48:30. One hundred and eighty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:48:45. One hundred and eighty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:49:00. One hundred and eighty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:49:15. One hundred and eighty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:49:30. One hundred and ninetieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:49:45. One hundred and ninety-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:50:00. One hundred and ninety-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:50:15. One hundred and ninety-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:50:30. One hundred and ninety-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:50:45. One hundred and ninety-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:51:00. One hundred and ninety-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:51:15. One hundred and ninety-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:51:30. One hundred and ninety-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:51:45. One hundred and ninety-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:52:00. Two hundredth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:52:15. Two hundred and first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:52:30. Two hundred and second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:52:45. Two hundred and third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:53:00. Two hundred and fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:53:15. Two hundred and fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:53:30. Two hundred and sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:53:45. Two hundred and seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:54:00. Two hundred and eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:54:15. Two hundred and ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:54:30. Two hundred and tenth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:54:45. Two hundred and eleventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:55:00. Two hundred and twelfth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:55:15. Two hundred and thirteenth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:55:30. Two hundred and fourteenth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:55:45. Two hundred and fifteenth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:56:00. Two hundred and sixteenth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:56:15. Two hundred and seventeenth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:56:30. Two hundred and eighteenth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:56:45. Two hundred and nineteenth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:57:00. Two hundred and twentieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:57:15. Two hundred and twenty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:57:30. Two hundred and twenty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:57:45. Two hundred and twenty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:58:00. Two hundred and twenty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:58:15. Two hundred and twenty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:58:30. Two hundred and twenty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:58:45. Two hundred and twenty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 4:59:00. Two hundred and twenty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 4:59:15. Two hundred and twenty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 4:59:30. Two hundred and thirtieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 4:59:45. Two hundred and thirty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:00:00. Two hundred and thirty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:00:15. Two hundred and thirty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:00:30. Two hundred and thirty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:00:45. Two hundred and thirty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:01:00. Two hundred and thirty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:01:15. Two hundred and thirty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:01:30. Two hundred and thirty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:01:45. Two hundred and thirty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:02:00. Two hundred and fortieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:02:15. Two hundred and forty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:02:30. Two hundred and forty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:02:45. Two hundred and forty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:03:00. Two hundred and forty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:03:15. Two hundred and forty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:03:30. Two hundred and forty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:03:45. Two hundred and forty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:04:00. Two hundred and forty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:04:15. Two hundred and forty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:04:30. Two hundred and fiftieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:04:45. Two hundred and fifty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:05:00. Two hundred and fifty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:05:15. Two hundred and fifty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:05:30. Two hundred and fifty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:05:45. Two hundred and fifty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:06:00. Two hundred and fifty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:06:15. Two hundred and fifty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:06:30. Two hundred and fifty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:06:45. Two hundred and fifty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:07:00. Two hundred and sixtieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:07:15. Two hundred and sixty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:07:30. Two hundred and sixty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:07:45. Two hundred and sixty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:08:00. Two hundred and sixty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:08:15. Two hundred and sixty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:08:30. Two hundred and sixty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:08:45. Two hundred and sixty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:09:00. Two hundred and sixty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:09:15. Two hundred and sixty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:09:30. Two hundred and seventieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:09:45. Two hundred and seventy-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:10:00. Two hundred and seventy-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:10:15. Two hundred and seventy-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:10:30. Two hundred and seventy-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:10:45. Two hundred and seventy-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:11:00. Two hundred and seventy-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:11:15. Two hundred and seventy-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:11:30. Two hundred and seventy-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:11:45. Two hundred and seventy-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:12:00. Two hundred and eightieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:12:15. Two hundred and eighty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:12:30. Two hundred and eighty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:12:45. Two hundred and eighty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:13:00. Two hundred and eighty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:13:15. Two hundred and eighty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:13:30. Two hundred and eighty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:13:45. Two hundred and eighty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:14:00. Two hundred and eighty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:14:15. Two hundred and eighty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:14:30. Two hundred and ninetieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:14:45. Two hundred and ninety-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:15:00. Two hundred and ninety-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:15:15. Two hundred and ninety-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:15:30. Two hundred and ninety-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:15:45. Two hundred and ninety-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:16:00. Two hundred and ninety-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:16:15. 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Two hundred and forty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:29:15. Two hundred and forty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:29:30. Two hundred and fiftieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:29:45. Two hundred and fifty-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:30:00. Two hundred and fifty-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:30:15. Two hundred and fifty-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:30:30. Two hundred and fifty-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:30:45. Two hundred and fifty-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:31:00. Two hundred and fifty-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:31:15. Two hundred and fifty-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:31:30. Two hundred and fifty-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:31:45. Two hundred and fifty-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:32:00. Two hundred and sixtieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:32:15. Two hundred and sixty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:32:30. Two hundred and sixty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:32:45. Two hundred and sixty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:33:00. Two hundred and sixty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:33:15. Two hundred and sixty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:33:30. Two hundred and sixty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:33:45. Two hundred and sixty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:34:00. Two hundred and sixty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:34:15. Two hundred and sixty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:34:30. Two hundred and seventieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:34:45. Two hundred and seventy-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:35:00. Two hundred and seventy-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:35:15. Two hundred and seventy-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:35:30. Two hundred and seventy-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:35:45. Two hundred and seventy-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:36:00. Two hundred and seventy-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:36:15. Two hundred and seventy-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:36:30. Two hundred and seventy-eighth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:36:45. Two hundred and seventy-ninth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:37:00. Two hundred and eightieth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:37:15. Two hundred and eighty-first: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:37:30. Two hundred and eighty-second: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:37:45. Two hundred and eighty-third: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:38:00. Two hundred and eighty-fourth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:38:15. Two hundred and eighty-fifth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:38:30. Two hundred and eighty-sixth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:38:45. Two hundred and eighty-seventh: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:39:00. Two hundred and eighty-eighth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:39:15. Two hundred and eighty-ninth: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:39:30. Two hundred and ninetieth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:39:45. Two hundred and ninety-first: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:40:00. Two hundred and ninety-second: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:40:15. Two hundred and ninety-third: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:40:30. Two hundred and ninety-fourth: Stuart O'Grady (AUS) 5:40:45. Two hundred and ninety-fifth: Mark Whitten (GBR) 5:41:00. Two hundred and ninety-sixth: Mark Beaumont (GBR) 5:41:15. Two hundred and ninety-seventh: Robbie McEwen (AUS) 5:41:30. Two hundred and ninety-eighth: Stuart O'



A bit gloomy, but at least it's not a repeat

I have been distracted for most of this week by that great mystery of the skies: why is it that the pictures from Mars are of a better quality than the pictures from Channel 5? Compared with this, the pictures from Mars are of a better quality than the pictures from Channel 5. Compared with this, the pictures from Mars are of a better quality than the pictures from Channel 5.

Still, in a week when even the news often sounds like a repeat (new Ulster crisis, Aussies thrash England), we are fortunate to be able to unearth a couple of programmes that are not repeats, or repeats disguised as compilations, or repeats announced, most maddeningly of all, as "another chance to see..."

Not that the new material was very cheering, in fact it had a distinctly autumnal feel. The schedule seemed to be trying to get their fare into the misery index, what with a documentary about the late John Wayne, a documentary on sexual harassment in the

Royal Navy and a third documentary about a young man with relatively minor injuries who nonetheless died in hospital.

The third shall be first, for it was best, though with a major reservation. QED has long been established on BBC1 as a series that knows how to hold an audience without introducing gimmicks, so I was alarmed to discover that last night's offering was to be a dramatic documentary, which cynics such as myself define as a documentary in which certain bits have been made up because nobody could find out what really happened.

I stand by this definition but will admit that *Cause of Death* (BBC1) was an excellent piece of work, not least because it was like real life: it had no neatly wrapped conclusion at the end. The beginning and the middle were harrowing enough, as the father of the deceased young man set about proving that his 23-

year-old son had died through hospital negligence.

The case was based on a real one and because it is not over the names were changed. Tom Georgeson was outstanding as Ray Peters, the father who raided the medical textbooks in order to take on the medical establishment. Georgeson, who will be remembered as Harry Naylor in *Between the Lines*, made a superb job of changing almost imperceptibly from a man wronged but impotent to a man wronged but able to summon the will and the expertise to take on the wrongdoers.

His ultimate vindication came not so much in court but in the words of an expert called to examine the hospital's treatment record: "If they'd left him where he fell and thrown a blanket over him he'd still be alive today."

In a sense the superficial drama

REVIEW

Peter Barnard



was only part of the story, for QED's underlying purpose was to highlight the growing concern over trauma death: some expert reports have suggested that up to a third of these deaths could be averted if the treatment was better.

If QED's decision to dramatise a single story worked on one level, it did not convey the wider purpose. Drama always does best when it manifests itself through human ex-

perience, but the straightforward documentary format is much better at conveying ideas and broad principles. There is undoubtedly a QED to be made out of trauma treatment, but this was not it.

John Wayne was the subject in *Reputations: The Unquiet American* (BBC2) and this was the documentary that did not win. It would be old hat to Wayne addicts of course, whereas people who care less about Wayne than they do about, say, Fergie's next pair of shoes, would have found the revelations new but utterly inconsequential.

Me? Well, I recall Wayne as an actor who made a few decent films and a lot of ordinary ones, while as a man I seem to recall that he was somewhere to the right of Ronald Reagan. *Reputations* confirmed these vague memories but offered little that was surprising. I enjoy *Reputations* when it revisits images and offers a new perspective,

but the Wayne programme merely took an "on the one hand, on the other hand" stance that made it little more than a biopic.

There were interesting moments, though. I had no idea that Maureen O'Hara, whom Wayne called "the greatest guy I ever knew", was still alive, much less as feisty as ever. And I discovered that Wayne's roles as the military hero had little connection with reality: he used several excuses to continue his acting career rather than sign up for the Second World War, including telling Uncle Sam that "I have the papers but I'm on location and don't have a typewriter". As Wayne might have said: aw shucks.

Heaven knows what Wayne would have made of women serving in the Armed Forces, but Lesley Morris could probably make an informed guess. She dreamt of being a Wren all

through her childhood and signed up, aged 17, only to suffer the nightmare of sexual harassment. Her story opened a new series of *The Day That Changed My Life* (BBC2) last night.

The day in question was February 23, 1995, when Lesley tried to kill herself. She had become one of the first women to serve at sea but her ship, *HMS Illustrious*, had crew members who seem to have been recruited from among the lower primates. Of course the Navy's reaction to the overdose was to decide there was something wrong with Lesley, so she was discharged. The service as being "temperamentally unsuitable".

Lesley has started to rebuild a shattered personality and, in February this year, she won a sexual harassment case against the Royal Navy. She works in a factory now and, as she said, that is not much compared with watching the sun set at sea.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (19039)
 - 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (27297)
 - 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (1) (2559129)
 - 9.20 Ready, Steady, Cook (1959652)
 - 9.45 Killy (1814942)
 - 10.30 Who'll Do the Pudding? (59497)
 - 11.00 News (1) Regional News and weather (7143470)
 - 11.05 Due South (1945950)
 - 11.50 Good Neighbours (2220961)
 - 12.00 News (1) Regional News and weather (8514671)
 - 12.05pm Call My Bluff (1947151)
 - 12.35 Neighbours (1) (8056478)
 - 1.00 One O'Clock News (1) (77774)
 - 1.30 Regional News (1) (2533519)
 - 1.40 Columbo: Try and Catch Me (1977) A murder-mystery author's draws on his vast experience of the criminal mind to write of her hated nephew, Peter Falk and Ruth Gordon star (1) (4534651)
 - 2.50 Hidden Treasure (1) (272749)
 - 3.00 International Golf News from the second 18 holes of the Loch Lomond World Invitational. Continues on BBC2 (3010)
 - 4.00 Popeye (702942) 4.10 Dinobabies (191229) 4.35 Cartoon Critics (191229) 5.00 Newsweek (1248836)
 - 5.10 The Bill Last in series (1937749)
 - 5.35 Neighbours Ramsay Street's budding entrepreneur Debbie unveils her new plans for the Coffee Shop (1) (232434)
 - 6.00 Six O'Clock News (1) (403)
 - 6.30 Regional News (1) (855)
 - 7.00 Watchdog: Value for Money Report on why British shoppers are paying over the odds for many goods, revealing that a luxury watch in London can cost £500 more than in New York (1) (889)
 - 7.30 EastEnders: Aylesbury's unorthodox methods of dealing with trouble land her in hot water, while Peggy and Grant find themselves in a spot of bother of their own (1) (889)
 - 8.00 Crime Beat: Mervyn Lewis reports on steps being taken by the police to tackle burglary — the crime the public worries about the most. Last in series (1) (2690)
 - 8.30 Airport: A plane crash-lands at Heathrow after its undercarriage becomes stuck, and a journalist seizes the opportunity to snuff out a story (1) (5497)
 - 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (1) (1229)
 - 9.30 One Foot in the Grave: Relations between Victor and Margaret become strained as she is plagued by nightmares about killing her husband (1) (70855)
 - 10.00 Southland Jones (1) (41478)
 - 10.30 The Last of the Mohicans: Dimbleby continues his chronicle of the first governor's tenancy in Hong Kong (1) (35328)
 - 10.35 The River Rat (1994). Drama, starring Tommy Lee Jones, Martha Plimpton and Brian Dennehy. An ex-convict is caught up in a web of danger and intrigue when he returns home to his independent young daughter after spending 13 years in prison for a crime he didn't commit. Directed by Tom Rickman (1) (51474923)
 - 1.00am Weather (1) (515958)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes:
The numbers next to each programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to programme your video recorder to record a particular programme. The Video PlusCode is a four-digit number which you enter on the Video PlusCode (VPC) button on your VCR. VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

- BBC2**
- 6.00am Open University: Easing the Pain (7126300) 6.25 A Fish and Bird's Eye View (712107) 6.50 Seasonal Affective Disorder (6409861) 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (1) (6161316)
 - 7.30 Children's BBC: The Moonline (1) (780774) 7.55 Bright Sparks (1) (6058125) 8.20 Charlie Chalk (1) (6736107) 8.35 The Record (2559129)
 - 9.00 Cartoon (5851720) 9.10 The Phil Simey Show (1) (1951010) 9.35 Great Mysteries and Myths of the 20th Century (2639652) 10.00 Children's BBC: Teletubbies (65687) 10.30 The Season (1) (67039)
 - 11.00 International Golf: The Loch Lomond World Invitational (7497)
 - 12.30pm Working Lunch (194881) 1.00 Joshua Jones (1) (2533519) 1.10 On the Pasion Track (2702377) 1.40 Blockbusters (2933052)
 - 2.05 International: Golf Further action from Loch Lomond (5943107)
 - 3.00 News (1) (1160101) 3.05 Westminster (1) (6104774) 3.55 News (1) (2515300)
 - 4.00 International Golf: The closing stages of round two (5949)
 - 6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (1) (88955)
 - 6.45 United Kingdom: Three Asian brothers with a rare blood disease (1) (113000)
 - 7.00 United Kingdom: A man dreams of hosting a massive party in Glasgow (1) (18478)
 - 7.30 How Buildings Learn: New series looking at how buildings have changed since they were constructed (1) (381)



Nick Naim's flaming cuisine (8.00pm)

- 8.00 Wild Harvest with Nick Naim: New series (1) (4572)
- 8.30 Trains: Back to Our Friends in Wales (1) (3036)
- 8.50 Absolutely Fabulous: Edna becomes possessed by a mortally following her father's death (1) (971)
- 9.30 This Life: Mike offers Anna a shoulder to cry on (1) (375658)
- 10.15 X-Files (883107)
- 10.28 UK News (193381)
- 10.30 Newsnight (1) (481403)
- 11.15 United Kingdom: Profile of Jimmy Miller (1) (790558)
- 11.30 United Kingdom: Protests against Manchester Airport's proposed new runway (1) (79478) 11.55 Holiday Weather (196652) 12.00 The Midday Hour (51879)
- 12.30am Learning Zone: Favourite Things (21140) 3.00 Money and Medicine (2614) 3.30 Running the NHS (67361) 3.50 Sports Centre (30153) 4.00 News (1) (1160101) 4.05 Languages (8555) 5.00 Business and Work Bell (85411)

- HTV**
- 6.00am GMTV (7672872)
 - 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1) (1957671)
 - 9.55 Regional news (1) and weather (6810328)
 - 10.00 The Time, the Place (89213)
 - 10.30 This Morning (1) (8415720)
 - 12.20pm Regional news (1) and weather (811655)
 - 12.30 ITN News (1) and weather (8148403)
 - 12.55 Shortland Street (8050284)
 - 1.25 Home and Away: Frances encounters a crazed madman who forces her off the road (1) (3772039)
 - 1.50 It's a Vile Life (1) (59647942)
 - 2.20 Message from Nam (3/3) (1) (594010)
 - 3.30 News (1) (1160300) 3.25 Regional news (1) and weather (118257)
 - 3.30 Potomac Park (1) (4562045) 3.40 Widdows (1) (730738) 3.50 Rupert (6375038) 4.15 Transylvania Pet Shop (1) (4027268) 4.40 Matt's Million (1) (1) (811300)
 - 5.10 A Country Practice (1986403)
 - 5.40 ITN News (1) and weather (593229)
 - 6.00 Home and Away (1) (351348)
 - 6.25 HTV Weather (841017)
 - 6.30 The West Tonight (823)
 - 7.00 Emmerdale: Jan is the bearer of awful news (1) (5010)
 - 7.30 3-D: Julie Barnwell introduces a report on the lack of female drivers in the world of Formula One motor racing (1) (107)
 - 8.00 The Bill: Meadows and Usher are convinced that an arson attack on a beauty salon was part of an insurance scam on the part of the owner. With Simon Rouse and Leslie Dean (1) (4968)

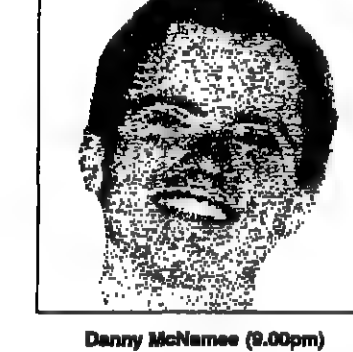


McDonald with contraband (8.30pm)

- 8.30 Undercover Customs: Operation Begonia: Trevor McDonald presents reconstructions of real-life smuggling incidents (1) (8215)
- 9.00 Taggart: Prayer for the Dead: McVie has a heart attack and Jim is promoted as acting Superintendent in his absence (1) (113) (579)
- 10.00 News at Ten (1) and weather (32774)
- 10.30 Regional news (1) (782861)
- 10.40 The West Week (225774)
- 11.30 Fringe France (1) (702229)
- 11.45 Hunter (1) (241652)
- 12.35am The Lads (1) (8129701)
- 1.05 Funny Business (9507701)
- 1.40 Planet Rock Profile (4461188)
- 2.10 Late and Loud (1) (8674508)
- 3.05 3-D (1) (1) (8662904)
- 3.35 The Good Sex Guide Late (1) (546255)
- 4.35 The Time, the Place (1) (22019411)
- 5.00 Garden Calendar (1) (89237)
- 5.30 News (1) (72362)

- CENTRAL**
- As HTV West except:
 - 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (1986403)
 - 1.30-1.50 Shortland Street (8050284)
 - 6.25 Central News (1) (452048)
 - 10.40 Film: Breaking the Silence (57398126)
 - 12.40am Funny Business (5422855)
 - 1.15 Rockmania (4525038)
 - 2.15 Ed's Night Party (72634)
 - 2.45 The Loop (1) (2125133)
 - 3.10 Late and Loud (1) (873817)
 - 4.10 Central Jobfinder '97 (1812274)
- WESTCOUNTRY**
- As HTV West except:
 - 12.55pm Home and Away (6009190)
 - 1.30-1.50 Emmerdale (75701348)
 - 1.50-5.40 Home and Away (1966403)
 - 6.00-7.00 Westcountry News (70478)
 - 10.30 Westcountry News (790213)
 - 10.45 Overdrive (1) (712923)
 - 11.15 Blur in Concert (286045)
 - 12.10am Weekly World News (3664782)
- MERIDIAN**
- As HTV West except:
 - 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away (1966403)
 - 8.00 Meridian Tonight (871)
 - 8.30-7.00 Grass Roots (923)
 - 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (750213)
 - 10.45 Film: Living a Lie (60437949)
 - 5.00am FreeScreen (89237)
- ANGLIA**
- As HTV West except:
 - 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (1986403)
 - 1.30-1.50 Shortland Street (8050284)
 - 6.25 Anglia News (1) (452048)
 - 10.40 The Magic and Mystery Show (360316)
 - 11.10 Westlines (237774)
 - 11.40 New York News (173132)
- S4C**
- Storia: 6.00am Sesame Street (14279)
 - 7.00 The Big Breakfast (56045)
 - 8.00 Bewitched (1969473)
 - 9.30 The Monroes (1669478)
 - 10.35 Plain Sailing (6972652)
 - 11.25 Animation (3665107)
 - 11.30 Springhill (8132)
 - 12.00 House to House (39687)
 - 12.30pm Rick Lake (66229)
 - 1.00 Blot Melthrin (25246039)
 - 1.15 Wili Wili Cwac Cwac (66578107)
 - 1.25 Australia Wild (78951859)
 - 1.55 Racing from Newmarket (42559749)
 - 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (836)
 - 4.30 Absolutely Animals (720)
 - 5.05 Pump (1504395)
 - 5.20 Gogo (789120)
 - 5.30 Countdown (300)
 - 6.00 Newyddion (688855)
 - 6.05 Heno (148132)
 - 6.35 Jac yn y Bocs (957497)
 - 7.00 Pobl y Cwm (258403)
 - 7.25 Sgrin Tylwyth (443300)
 - 8.00 Llangollen (972300)
 - 8.30 Newyddion (8107)
 - 9.00 The Jewel in the Crown (1381)
 - 10.00 Tour De France (30316)
 - 10.30 Film: Her My Song (65942)
 - 12.30am Hiding the Tiger (32492)

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.00am Sesame Street (1) (14279)
 - 7.00 The Big Breakfast (56045)
 - 8.00 Bewitched (1) (1969473)
 - 9.30 The Monroes (1669478)
 - 10.35 Plain Sailing (6972652)
 - 11.25 Secrets of the Moors (4/5) (1) (4582500)
 - 12.00 House to House: Political magazine (59687) 12.30pm Caroline in the City Caroline and the Central (1) (56229)
 - 1.00 Caroline in the City: Caroline and Richard's Mom (1) (1) (9730120) 1.25 Australia Wild (1) (78951859)
 - 1.55 Racing from Newmarket The 2.05, 2.35, 3.05 and 3.40 races (42559749)
 - 4.00 Fifteen-to-One presented by William G. Stewart (1) (836)
 - 4.30 Countdown Words and numbers game (1) (8197107)
 - 4.55 Rick Lake The guest is Rachel, the first woman to become a member of the Grand Council of the Ku Klux Klan (1) (1) (2113590)
 - 5.30 Pet Rescue A dog suffering from kennel madness (1) (1) (300)
 - 6.00 Tour De France The 281km stage from Chantilly to La Châtre (1) (1)
 - 6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap (1) (565)
 - 7.00 Channel 4 News (1) Includes headlines and weather at 7.30 (812594)
 - 7.50 Chester Mystery Plays (1) (940132)
 - 8.00 Killer Bees A documentary about a strain of bees that has caused havoc in the Arizona town of Apache Junction (1) (1) (4045)



Danny McNamee (8.00pm)

- 8.00 ORANGE Trial and Error David Jessel investigates the case of Danny McNamee, found guilty of the Hyde Park bombing of 1982 (1) (1381)
- 10.00 Whose Line is it Anyway? A new series of the comedy improvisation show hosted by Clive Anderson, with music by Richard Vancott. The guests are Ryan Stiles, Colin Mochrie, Greg Proops and Roy Hattersley (1) (59478)
- 10.35 Northern Exposure Quirky comedy set in Alaska. Michelle's attempts to stage a version of Bus Stop look doomed to end in failure (1) (873300)
- 11.30 Weekly Planet A discussion on whether the political will exists in the US and the European Union to ensure lasting peace in Bosnia (101126)
- 1.05am Venus Peter (1989) The story of a boy's childhood on the streets of London. Starring Gordon Strachan, Ray McAnally, David Hayman and Sinead Cusack. Directed by Ian Seller (350508)
- 2.45 Memento Joan Bakewell talks to Terence Conran (1) (79817)
- 3.15 Schools (1) (773633)
- 4.00 Tour De France (1) (87879)
- 5.30 Bookdate (1) (70904)

- CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE**
- Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are: 11.000 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz
- 6.00am 5 News Early (5521852)**
- 7.30 The Havakazo (7364029) 8.00 Adventures of the Bush Patrol (7254336) 8.30 WideWorld (8110) (7253107)
- 9.00 Espresso Consumer magazine (3554497) 10.00 Exclusive (1) (5933107) 10.30 Instant Gardens (1) (7266671)**
- 11.00 Lanza (688687) 11.30 Double Espresso (1973045)**
- 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (1) (7257523) 12.30pm Family Affairs (1) (4821381)**
- 1.00 5 News Update (8946529) 1.05 Sunset Beach: Sand and sun soap (1) (8871768) 2.00 5's Company: Live entertainment (844823)**
- 3.30 El Cid (1961) starring Charlton Heston**
Part one concludes tomorrow at 3.30 of the epic adventure yarn about the life and times of the 11th-century Spanish hero. With Sophia Loren, directed by Anthony Mann (1370788)
- 5.20 5's Company: Late Extra (68987381)**
- 5.30 100 Per Cent The game show without a host (7767861)**
- 6.00 Move on Up Fast-moving game show (1) (774774)**
- 6.30 Family Affairs More drama concerning the Hart family (1) (7882126)**
- 7.00 Extravision Showbiz news (6451555)**
- 7.30 Treasure Island The real sea colony in Cape Cross, south-west Africa (7871010)**
- 8.00 The Car Show Motoring magazine presented by Mariella Frostup and Tristram Fyfe (6850213)**
- 8.30 5 News (1) (5939720)**
- 9.00 Across 110th: Stewart (1972) starring Anthony Quinn, John Huston, J.T. Walsh and Melvyn Frank (487855)**
- 9.30 Family Affairs Thriller about a gang who, after robbing a New York bank of \$300,000, find themselves on the run from the police and also another gang of mobsters. Directed by Barry Shear (80734788)**
- 10.55 The Jack Docherty Show with guests Robin Day, Sir David, J.T. Walsh and Melvyn Frank (487855)**
- 11.40 Prisoner: Call Block H (7657000)**
- 12.40am Live and Dangerous Includes football action from both North and Latin America (11580614)**
- 4.40 The Streets of San Francisco (8251343)**
- 5.30 100 Per Cent (1) (3935362)**



Charlton Heston as El Cid (3.30pm)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday.

SKY 1

- 6.00am Morning Glory (220455) 9.00 Rage and Karma Live (72010) 10.00 The World (57018) 11.00 One of Our Lads (44452) 12.00 Oprah Winfrey (27300)
- 1.00pm Gossip (21553) 2.00 Sky Sports (191229) 3.00 Jerry Jones (19774)
- 4.00 Oprah Winfrey (22551) 5.00 Sky Trek The Next Generation (7817) 6.00 The Love Show (7749) 6.30 Mervyn Lewis (19774)
- 7.00 The Simpsons (6519) 7.30 Mervyn Lewis (19774) 8.00 The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30 The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00 The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30 The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00 The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30 The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00 The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30 The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00 The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30 The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 6.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 7.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 8.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 9.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 10.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 11.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 12.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 1.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 2.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 3.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.00am The Next of Kin (7817) 4.30am The Next of Kin (7817) 5.00am The



ATHLETICS 45

Fraser seeks to step out of shadows

SPORT

THURSDAY JULY 10 1997

GOLF 47

Haeggman makes the most of early start



Tyson hit by indefinite ban from ring

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN LAS VEGAS

MIKE TYSON was yesterday banished from boxing for an indefinite period for biting the ears of Evander Holyfield in their world heavyweight title bout at the end of last month. He was also fined \$3 million (about £1.85 million), 10 per cent of his purse of \$30 million, and ordered to pay the costs of the proceedings. It was the maximum penalty available to the Nevada State Athletic Commission.

whether or not he should be given one. By federal law, its decisions are binding on every other state. It is unlikely that Tyson would try to get round this by boxing abroad because he has already said that he would accept whatever punishment the commission handed down. Tyson was not at the City Hall, which stands opposite a downtown casino called Lady Luck, to hear the verdict for himself. He was represented by two lawyers, Oscar Goodman and Eckley Keach.

The five-man commission took just one hour to reach its decision. The penalty was passed unanimously. While Dr Elias Ghanem, the commission chairman, said that Tyson was within his rights not to attend the meeting, it was quite clear that some on the panel were disappointed by his non-attendance. One commissioner, Luther Mack, a businessman from Reno, said before the meeting: "It is very important that he should attend. It shows a bit of humility. I would like to hear from him to say to us in his own words what happened. We saw what happened. We don't know why. He got a prepared letter and apologised. He hasn't apologised before the commission, which does business with him month after month and year after year."

Before putting his deposition before the commission, Goodman explained that Tyson had not attended under advice from him. "There was no need for him to be here," Goodman said. "He meant what he said to the world. He apologised for snapping and has thrown himself at the mercy of the commission. All he could say was 'I'm sorry'. How many times can he say, 'Sorry, sorry, sorry'? Mr Tyson has had an exemplary ring record for 13 years. After every fight, he went to his opponent and shook his hand and remained a gentleman. People are entitled to make a mistake."

Jim Thomas, Holyfield's attorney, said that Holyfield had forgiven Tyson. Holyfield, told of the commission's verdict in South Africa, said that he had no comment to make. Whether Tyson returns to boxing will depend on how he handles his expulsion from the sport. While three years in prison failed to help him to break his lifelong habit of resorting to violence and thuggery to get his way, this time an absence from the ring could be to his advantage. While many believe that, without the discipline of daily training, he could be exposed to the destructive forces that he has not been able to control before, there are those who believe that the ban could help him to become a better man. Yet almost everyone who wants Tyson to come back to boxing believes that his psychological problems will not improve until he makes some difficult decisions.

If he wants to box again, he will have to remove the street influences that surround him, and encourage him to rail at the world and engage in violent acts: men such as "Crocodile", whose job is to abuse Tyson's opponents, and use threatening behaviour against anyone who disagrees with him, or wants him to give his vocal chords a rest. There is an indication of a change of attitude in Tyson. He has asked John Horne, one of his managers, to stop abusing Holyfield. There are rumours that he will not use Horne or Rory Holloway, his other manager, as his advisers any more, but will rely on his wife, Monica, who is a doctor. She is believed to have influenced him to seek medical advice. A break from the rap world of his hangers-on, followed by a deeper involvement with his family and three daughters, Gina, Mike, and Rayna, could "help the process of healing", as Tyson's adviser, Jesse Jackson, puts it.

Dino Duva, the head of Main Events, the promotion group in competition with Don King, Tyson's promoter, believes that Tyson can become "a solid citizen" if he goes about it in the right way. "He must get rid of all that rubbish around him," Duva said, "or he'll end up going to jail or end up dead. He's got to get rid of the gangsters who just hang around and give him a worse image. He's got almost to start a new life."

Greenfield lifts Sussex to seventh heaven

By IVO TENNANT

HOVE (Lancashire won toss): Sussex beat Lancashire by seven wickets.

IF ANY county has been in need of a significant victory this season, it is Sussex. That they had needed 284 runs to beat Lancashire, the NatWest Trophy holders, and did so by the margin of seven wickets made this a triumph to relish. This was only the sixth time that they have won a match in any form of the game and they did so, in the end, with some nonchalance. "After the man-

ner in which we lost our last two matches, this was a tremendous achievement," Tony Pigott, the Sussex chief executive, said. Keith Greenfield, their most consistent batsman in limited-overs cricket this season, made 129, his highest score in this competition, and won the man-of-the-match award from Sir Alec Bedser. Dropped on 81, rather badly by Crawley at short extra cover, he was in for all but the closing overs. He and Athey put on 85 in 18 overs and, although Taylor

went cheaply, he and Mark Newell kept up with the asking rate without recourse to slogging. They were particularly severe on Yates, the off spinner, whose ten overs went for 73. Sussex were fortuitous in that they had the better of the conditions, but Greenfield, the first cricketer to be taken on as a YTS trainee, batted as he can seldom have batted before, hitting 12 fours in an innings that lasted 173 balls. From the last 20 overs, 105 were needed. Newell promptly reached his half-century with a straight six off Yates, who was driven and pulled with impunity. Greenfield eventually was bowled by Watkinson, unable to adjust his shot as he went down the pitch, but Lenham, too, batted with much the same ease.

As for Lancashire, there will be some ructions, if not recriminations. They were without Wasim Akram and Fairbrother, and Chapple had a stomach muscle injury, but still should have had the necessary strength in depth to beat a side so short of self-belief as Sussex are at the moment. In spite of a partnership of 177 between Crawley, who made an unbeaten 113 that included 11 fours, and Austin, there were still 21 balls remaining when victory was achieved. It was somewhat surprising that Lancashire opted to bat. Bedser met Keith Miller for the first time on this ground 55 years ago and, even though they did not start then until the more congenial time of 11.30, there was always something in the pitch or in the air. So there was yesterday in terms of bounce and movement.

Lancashire lost their first four wickets for 38, including that of the England captain, Michael Atherton, who evidently finds this kind of cricket increasingly onerous in the wake of a Test match. He, like Gallian, was caught at first slip in the opening overs and without moving his feet. Lloyd was bowled by Robinson, shouldering arms and Flintoff too, was taken in the slips, edging one that lifted off a length from Drakes.



Greenfield flicks the ball away on the on side during his match-winning innings for Sussex at Hove yesterday

Drakes. He bowled well enough here, although when he returned for a second spell, he could not remove Crawley or Austin. Sussex did not field especially well. They twice dropped Watkinson, who made 36, when he was in single figures and Austin once when he was on 82. Often, they were not adept at preventing the scampers second run. Yet ultimately it did not matter, for those early wickets proved highly significant. Not until Austin came in did Crawley begin to bat with any freedom.

Austin has long been an underrated cricketer. His innings here was full of beefy blows, counter-pointing Crawley's elegance. When he was caught at deep square leg looking to reach his century off the last ball of Lancashire's innings, he had made 97 with a six and ten fours from 104 balls. As for him, it was not enough.

Glamorgan reprised, page 48
Surrey throw it away, page 49

SCOREBOARD FROM HOVE

LANCASHIRE		SUSSEX	
M A Atherton	36	K Greenfield	129
E R Duffell	11	C W J Athey	82
J P Crawley	113	N R Taylor	8
D J Lloyd	36	M Newell	73
A Fairbrother	0	N J Lenham	19
M Robinson	36	Extras	10
D Aaker	0	Total (3 wickets, 58.3 overs)	288
Edwards	0	K Newell, J P Moore, V C Dukes, A A Khan, M A Robinson and R J Norton did not bat	
Fall of wickets: 1-38 (4 overs), 2-73 (10 overs), 3-113 (20 overs), 4-113 (21 overs), 5-113 (21 overs), 6-113 (21 overs), 7-113 (21 overs), 8-113 (21 overs), 9-113 (21 overs), 10-113 (21 overs), 11-113 (21 overs), 12-113 (21 overs), 13-113 (21 overs), 14-113 (21 overs), 15-113 (21 overs), 16-113 (21 overs), 17-113 (21 overs), 18-113 (21 overs), 19-113 (21 overs), 20-113 (21 overs), 21-113 (21 overs)		Fall of wickets: 1-45 (2 overs), 2-55 (3 overs), 3-65 (4 overs), 4-75 (5 overs), 5-85 (6 overs), 6-95 (7 overs), 7-105 (8 overs), 8-115 (9 overs), 9-125 (10 overs), 10-135 (11 overs), 11-145 (12 overs), 12-155 (13 overs), 13-165 (14 overs), 14-175 (15 overs), 15-185 (16 overs), 16-195 (17 overs), 17-205 (18 overs), 18-215 (19 overs), 19-225 (20 overs), 20-235 (21 overs), 21-245 (22 overs)	

Davis Cup team feel at home in downpour

FROM JULIAN MURCAT
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN KIBU

SOARING temperatures earlier in the week gave way to torrential rain here yesterday when the Great Britain Davis Cup team arrived for the tie with Ukraine, which gets under way tomorrow. The deluge, which restricted practice to barely half an hour, ensured that there was a distinctly Wimbledon flavour to greet the players.

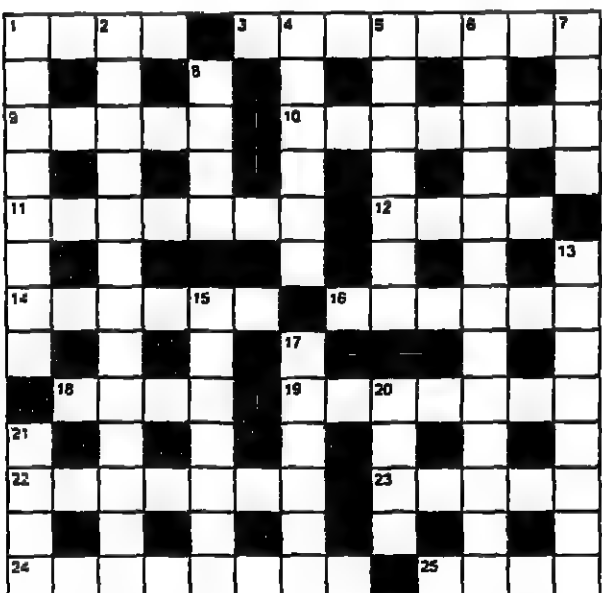
Britain's squad, headed by Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, felt comfortable when practising yesterday on a clay court that appeared quicker than its billing. Britain must win the tie to avoid a relegation decider with Hungary later this year. Victory would guarantee the nation's place in the first division of the Euro African group.

Ukraine's standard-bearer in the best-of-five rubber is Andrei Medvedev, seeded No 13 at Wimbledon, but more comfortable on clay than grass. "Medvedev is favourite to win his two singles matches and we are favourite to win the other two," David Lloyd, the Britain captain, said yesterday. "It could all come down to the doubles," but Davis Cup matches never work out as you expect.

Lloyd is satisfied with the team's fitness and morale. "All six of our players have been playing a lot of tennis," he said.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

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BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS

- Little shapeless mass (4)
- Type of race had panic attack (8)
- Cuddly toy (5)
- Old country dance (7)
- Vote counters: bank clerks (7)
- Siraford river (4)
- Ashor (6)
- Light breeze (6)
- Mild, creamy Fr. cheese (4)
- Valuable old piece (7)
- Living in water (7)
- Illegal act (5)
- Timetable (8)
- Satisfactory (4)

DOWN

- Tolerance: distance from equator (8)
- Cope unsystematically (6,7)
- Impressive — Strindberg (6)
- Leave correct course (7)
- Deeply wounded (3,2,3,5)
- Remove skin: John —, huntsman (4)
- Exaggerated sales talk (4)
- Foliage (leg for vases) (5)
- Exploited (labour) (7)
- Proust's narrator (6)
- Discretion (4)
- Go by: hand along (4)

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SOLUTION TO NO 1141

ACROSS: 6 Jealous 7 Duoms 9 Jetty 10 Chekhov 11 Velvet glove 14 Run away with 17 Cluster 19 Proxy 21 Sushi 22 Condole
DOWN: 1 Haft 2 Body blow 3 Psyche 4 Azur 5 Posh-posh 6 Jule 8 Soviet 11 Vanquish 12 Grippings 13 Fracas 15 York 16 Pyre 18 Twin 20 Obese

Pressure on Villeneuve to deliver

By MICHAEL CALVIN

FRANK WILLIAMS, in a characteristically blunt response to unexpected adversity, has set the agenda for the British Grand Prix on Sunday by insisting that only victory at Silverstone will allow Jacques Villeneuve to retain a realistic chance of winning the world championship. His faith in Villeneuve, who trails Michael Schumacher by 14 points at the halfway point of the Formula One season, is unshaken. Yet such a robust acknowledgement of the threat represented by Ferrari's renaissance underlines the impact of unaccustomed unavailability.

"Jacques has to win at Silverstone to stay on pace for the title," Williams said yesterday. "The team has to have a one-two to keep Ferrari within reach in the constructors' championship. We can't let the gap between us increase."

Villeneuve does not attempt to minimise the importance of the race, which has been won five times by a Williams-Renault in the past six years. He admits to making mistakes, especially at his home grand prix in Montreal last month, yet challenges the efficacy of the team's development programme. "I expected to be at least a lot closer to Michael than I am now," he said. "We had an amazing car at the start of the season, but it's not that amazing any more. The problem is we haven't improved it. Everyone else has. We've been thinking about next year, and been caught out. Now we have to fight back, get back on a straight line again. There is a lot of pressure on us because of Michael's lead, and the fact that we've had a few bad races lately."

Williams is principally concerned with the reliability of his cars. In the past eight races, they have endured four accidents and three mechanical failures. Importantly, however, he relishes Villeneuve's competitive nature. He accepts that conservative accumulation of points is anathema to Villeneuve and does not expect him to act out of character.

Villeneuve insisted that, faced with similar circumstances to the last race, at Magny Cours, where he was fortunate to escape with fourth place after a rash attempt to overtake Eddie Irvine on the final bend, he would gamble everything.

Boy racer

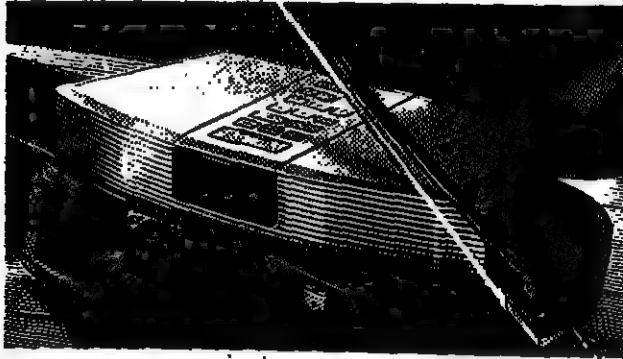
"Of course I'd do it again," he said. "That's racing. It's why I am in it, what I am meant to do. If you are just going to sit there and take your points without taking any risks, then you might as well not be a racing driver."

Such sentiments brought a smile to Williams's face. "Jacques is still the best challenger to Michael there is," he said. "Everyone makes mistakes. Melbourne was very irritating, because, without

that first-corner collision, he would have cruised into the distance. He felt terrible about Montreal, so there was no need to labour the point."

"He's an intelligent individual, who is just a brilliant racer. His attitude is 'Let's go for it'. That's what I like about his character. He's very self-confident, very strong mentally. He's his own master and he can handle himself under pressure. I rely on him to use his judgment."

A second successive win by Villeneuve at Silverstone would have historical significance, as Williams's hundredth grand prix victory, but the team owner is acutely aware of Schumacher's exceptional ability. "It's difficult for a rival team owner to be extravagant in his praise, because that automatically belittles the capabilities of his drivers," he said. "But Michael is very much in control, and Ferrari are now very reliable. He's making the most of the work done by his team."



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Ban hunting now.

Surprised? You shouldn't be. Seven out of ten people (71%) throughout the country want hunting with hounds abolished according to a new MORI poll released today.

68% of rural people believe that those who want to hunt should only take part in drag hunting where no animal is killed.

72% of rural people believe the interests of hunted animals should come ahead of the interests of those who wish to hunt with dogs.

57% of rural people do not believe that hunting with hounds is necessary to control the numbers of animals such as foxes.

73% of rural people support a ban on deer hunting. So much for urban arrogance.



IFAW
INTERNATIONAL FUND
FOR ANIMAL WELFARE

Moi unleashes police invasion of campus

Whips, batons and gas used to prevent Nairobi protest

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

CHOKING with teargas, F.W. Kenyanjui almost made it through a gauntlet of whips, clubs and kicks before being pole-axed by a policeman who was laughing.

As the cry of "Uai" (kill) left the officer's lips, the third-year art student crashed on to his side and immediately went into a seizure. His head nodded insanely into the tarmac, foam poured from his mouth as the police turned their attention to thrashing other students teargassed out of their halls of residence.

Ordered by President Moi to prevent a threatened march on State House, where he was holding a summit with the Presidents of Sudan and Eritrea and the Ethiopian Prime Minister, the police relished their work.

With battle cries, they swarmed through Nairobi University campus yesterday, beating students and dons indiscriminately. Tear-

gas from the assault drifted onto the terrace of the Norfolk hotel, where tourists waited for buses to Kenya's game parks, as police broke up a non-violent demonstration calling for the right to free assembly in Kenya and a day of mourning for students killed by police earlier in the week. This week's toll had climbed to 14 with the deaths on Tuesday of four students from beatings by police during Monday's demonstrations.

Students were driven out as if they were game in a hunt.

An official at the Aga Khan Hospital in Nairobi yesterday described Mr Kenyanjui's chances of not being the fifteenth as "so so" after he was admitted in a coma. His back has been badly bruised by the thrashings he had suffered after packing his belongings in university digs on State House Avenue, close to the official residence of President Moi. But the real damage

was done by a single blow to the back of his head which drove a square inch of skull into his brain. When bystanders appealed to the police to help them to carry him to a clinic near by, officers sniggered.



Kenyan police yesterday confront university students protesting at the death of four friends in Monday's demonstrations

"Help what?" they asked in Swahili as they jogged along a blood-spattered road after more victims. When Mr Kenyanjui was carried into a university clinic, a doctor took one look at him and con-

demned Mr Moi's security forces as "animals", shouting: "They [the students] were given no time to leave. They were driven out of the residences as if they were game in a hunt."

The attacks on demonstrators calling for political reforms have left scores in hospital. Most notable among them was the Rev Timothy Njaya, the Nairobi Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of East

Africa, who was bludgeoned to his knees. Yesterday he was taken off the critical list in Nairobi hospital, where he lay with his head bandaged and one arm in plaster. Others were less fortunate. A female design student was shot at point-blank range in the stomach while sitting at her desk in an examination room. She was in a critical condition yesterday.

President Moi, 73, ordered all Nairobi University campuses closed yesterday and sent his men in to clear out the students, so dispersing a hubbub of discontent that had become a focus of international outrage after Monday's killings.

In sending the students home he may have removed the "storm troopers" of the Opposition. But after condemnation for his actions from Tony Lloyd, Britain's Minister for African Affairs, the US State Department and human rights groups, leaders of the Opposition said they had won the battle for Nairobi University.

TV chiefs suspended: Kenyan television station KTN yesterday suspended two senior officials responsible for news broadcasts. No reason was given for the action against Vitalis Muebe, the editor-in-chief, and Isayah Kabira, his deputy, but the station had shown graphic footage of police officers beating political protesters on Monday. (AFP)

Summit fiasco for an absolute ruler who never learnt to live with dissent

By SAM KILEY

MAN IN THE NEWS

PRESIDENT MOI'S attempts to play the elder statesman of Central and East Africa fell flat at a summit of regional heads of government as students were teargassed and beaten a few hundred yards from the summit venue yesterday.

With the embarrassing end to the summit aimed at ending conflicts in Somalia and Sudan, Mr Moi found himself alienated from his own people and humiliated in front of his peers.

His style has been no less violent than that of Mobutu Sese Seko, former Zaire's ruler. His skill has been in taking one step forward on the road to reform, and then inching back into the role of Kenya's absolute ruler.

Representing minority tribes as Vice-President under Jomo Kenyatta, a member of

the Kikuyu (the largest and richest ethnic group), Mr Moi took power on the death of his predecessor in 1979.

Since then his schizophrenic behaviour has persistently wrongfooted foreign donors who have been anxious to press the former British colony into reforms without wrecking its economy.

But Mr Moi has recently inflamed the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund over his refusal to prosecute political allies involved in the massive Goldenberg fraud, which cost the Government £300 million. The bodies last week froze \$36 million (£21 million) in protest.

A reluctant "convert" to multi-party democracy, Mr Moi, 73, bowed to pressure to hold multi-party elections in

1992. Not happy to enjoy spills in the Opposition which would have ensured him victory, he rigged the polls and hought off his opponents. In the last quarter of that year Kenya's money supply exploded by 40 per cent.

Having won the 1992 elections, he said political pluralism would lead to tribal conflict. He then set about ensuring his predictions would come true by unleashing members of his Kalenjin tribe and their allies, the Masai, on Kikuyu farmers in the fertile volcanic highlands of the Rift Valley. He drove more than 300,000 people into refugee camps.

Little accurate information on Mr Moi's murky finances is available. But investigations by The Times have identified one close associate

who runs a portfolio of \$600 million for the President. Other sources said that this was one of three major portfolios.

To maintain some international credibility, Mr Moi has freed the local press and given Kenya's central bank limited autonomy. But he continues to refuse to allow opposition MPs to address political rallies in the run-up to elections this year.

It is this refusal which has brought demonstrators onto streets over the past two months.

Kenya's sad irony is that the Opposition is so divided that he would easily win elections even if he bowed to demands for reform.

But Mr Moi, who carries an ivory and silver club like a sceptre in public, cannot cope with the idea of public dissent. He sees himself as an absolute ruler, perhaps one of Africa's last.

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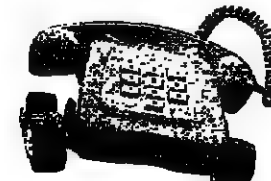
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* Mortgage example of £28,000 repayable over 25 years (360 monthly payments).

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APRs based on Standard Variable Rate Repayment mortgages, correct at 1st July 1997. Sources: Moneyfacts. *MRRAS has been calculated under current tax legislation which may alter.

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**FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON**

Deborah Lyons, left, and the Rev Henry Lyons, above. Mrs Lyons set fire to the house, below, after finding her husband co-owned it with another woman.

A black and white photograph of a stone building, likely a camp or school building, with a sign that reads "CAMP". To the right of the building is a small pavilion-like structure with a conical roof. The foreground shows a paved area and some landscaping.

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKI
IN HONG KONG

In the view of lawyers and social workers, expelling such children violates the Basic Law, China's mini-constitution for Hong Kong, which stipulates that a child with a Hong Kong parent has the right to live here regardless of their place of birth.

FROM JAMES BONE IN TROUTBECK, NEW YORK STATE

Diplomats are pushing for a settlement so the island can be admitted to the European Union in the next wave of new members.

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

The supermodel's crime, in the eyes of the campaigners, was to have appeared on the cover of a recent issue of *Smoker* magazine, puffing on a long cigar. Inside the magazine, there are more photo-

Dr Chesterfield-Evans condemned Ms Macpherson for playing the "product placement" game. He said: "The tobacco

At a news conference after the NATO summit, he said that he was concerned about the part dealing with Food and Drug Administration regulation of tobacco, which said it could not ban nicotine in cigarettes for some years and would have to show that an eventual ban would not create a black market in nicotine cigarettes. (Reuters)

Israel accuses nuclear monastery

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The London Office

Midland Interest Personal Customers

Product	Rate	Term	Amount
Current Account	0.5%	Overdraft	£10,000
Savings Account	5.0%	1 Year	£1,000
Fixed Deposit	6.0%	2 Years	£5,000
Personal Loan	8.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Loan	10.0%	3 Years	£20,000
Investment Fund	7.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Life Insurance	12.0%	20 Years	£10,000
Health Insurance	15.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Travel Insurance	18.0%	1 Year	£10,000
Car Insurance	20.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Home Insurance	22.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Insurance	25.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Life Insurance	28.0%	20 Years	£10,000
Health Insurance	30.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Travel Insurance	32.0%	1 Year	£10,000
Car Insurance	35.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Home Insurance	38.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Insurance	40.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Life Insurance	42.0%	20 Years	£10,000
Health Insurance	45.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Travel Insurance	48.0%	1 Year	£10,000
Car Insurance	50.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Home Insurance	52.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Insurance	55.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Life Insurance	58.0%	20 Years	£10,000
Health Insurance	60.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Travel Insurance	62.0%	1 Year	£10,000
Car Insurance	65.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Home Insurance	68.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Insurance	70.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Life Insurance	72.0%	20 Years	£10,000
Health Insurance	75.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Travel Insurance	78.0%	1 Year	£10,000
Car Insurance	80.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Home Insurance	82.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Insurance	85.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Life Insurance	88.0%	20 Years	£10,000
Health Insurance	90.0%	10 Years	£10,000
Travel Insurance	92.0%	1 Year	£10,000
Car Insurance	95.0%	3 Years	£10,000
Home Insurance	98.0%	5 Years	£10,000
Business Insurance	100.0%	3 Years	£10,000

كله في ايد

Clinton linked to key figure in funding scandal

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton personally persuaded the Democrats to hire John Huang, the figure at the heart of Washington's fundraising scandal, a Senate hearing was told yesterday.

Richard Sullivan, the former financial director for the Democratic National Committee, told a packed meeting on Capitol Hill that numerous efforts had been made to secure a role for Mr Huang at the party's fundraising headquarters in Washington.

Chief among those who had lobbied on his behalf were Arkansas associates of the Lippo Group — the multinational owned by Indonesians with interests in China — senior White House staff and, latterly, Mr Clinton.

At issue in the hearings is whether the President and his staff solicited and accepted illegal donations to election funds from foreign citizens and businesses.

Mr Huang, born in China and brought up in Taiwan, was a former employee of the Lippo Group in Little Rock, Arkansas. He subsequently joined the Commerce Department before becoming a senior fundraiser for the Democratic National Committee.

For the first time this week, he offered to testify before the Senate government affairs committee under limited immunity from prosecution for election law violations.

The sudden volte face prompted American commentators to speculate that he may become the John Dean of the controversy. Mr Dean's disclosures led to Richard Nixon's downfall during the Watergate investigations.

Mr Sullivan, who left the party headquarters in March after two years as finance director, said that both the President and Harold Ickes, then deputy White House Chief of Staff, had talked to Marvin Rosen, the organisation's finance chairman, about a job for Mr Huang.

"[Mr. Rosen] mentioned that at some point in passing the President had asked him if he had heard that John was interested in coming to the DNC," Mr Sullivan said.

Earlier he claimed he had seen no evidence that the Democrats had engaged in irregular fundraising, but added that Republicans had a better system for vetting campaign contributions.

Mr Sullivan's testimony before Fred Thompson, the Republican senator and film actor, and John Glenn, the Democratic senator and former astronaut, appeared to confirm the shadowy influence of the Riady family, the Indonesian owners of the Lippo Group. It also underlined the fact that Mr Clinton had a powerful network of Arkansas fundraisers with Asian connections, long before he became President.

Mr Sullivan said that Joseph Girio and Mark Middleton, Little Rock lawyers who acted as deal-makers for Lippo in the United States, had pressed the White House and the committee to hire Mr Huang.

As the second day of hearings started, Democratic Party officials tried to discredit Mr Sullivan, 35, as someone who was struggling to save his own skin. "His recollection is probably shaded by the fact that these problems occurred in his department on his watch," one said.

Mr Clinton, in Madrid for the Nato summit, was vague about his personal intervention for Mr Huang. "I may have said to someone that he wanted to work for the DNC," the President said.

"I had known him for several years, going back to my service as Governor, so I knew who he was."

"Most people do not volunteer for fundraising. It is an onerous task. I think I would have recommended anyone who had volunteered."

Sullivan taking oath in Senate yesterday



Floodwaters continue to rise near Prerov in the Czech Republic yesterday

Death toll grows in European floods

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN WARSAW

FLOODS that have killed at least 23 people and forced major evacuations in Poland and the Czech Republic spread yesterday as heavy rain continued for a fifth day.

Rail and road traffic in western Poland and eastern Czech areas were disrupted as roads, bridges and anti-flood dams were deluged. Eight border crossings between Poland and the Czech Republic were closed.

Charities in both countries appealed for food, blankets, clothing and donations, and Czech television called for drinking water to replace contaminated supplies.

Since the floods began on Monday, rescue teams have evacuated more than 60,000 people in southern Poland. Many people initially refused to leave their homes because they feared looting, a fire brigade official said.

Four more deaths were reported in Poland yesterday, including a man who drowned as he clung to a floating log, raising the toll to 14. Nine died and three were missing in the Czech Republic, officials said. Other reports said that at least ten people had drowned and 30 were missing.

Polish rescue officials in Cracow were on alert after the River Vistula rose more than 9ft above danger levels. Hundreds were evacuated from their homes in the southern towns of Oswiecim and Cieszkowice as floods neared.

Austrian officials estimated water damage in Vienna at £1 million after what television called the worst summer flooding in 50 years. Authorities have forbidden swimming in the New Danube.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cambodia royalty flee coup

Phnom Penh: At least ten members of Cambodia's royal family joined a huge exodus yesterday, fleeing a tense capital firmly in the grip of Hun Sen, the former second Co-Prime Minister, who assumed sole power in a coup two days ago, ousting his rival Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

The royal family, including the eldest daughter of the absent King Norodom Sihanouk, joined thousands of foreigners in the airlift. (AFP) Leading article, page 23

Blast kills 15

Bucharest: Fifteen people died and an IAR93 aircraft was destroyed in an explosion as the plane prepared for takeoff to test ammunition at a Romanian military airbase near Craiova. (AP)

Venice jailings

Venice: An Italian court jailed eight separatists for up to six years and ordered to them pay £52,000 damages for storming the bell tower in St Mark's Square in an independence demonstration. (Reuters)

Time lord

Seoul: North Korea adopted a new calendar that counts time beginning with the birth of its late leader, Kim Il Sung, revered like a god, who died at 82 on July 8, 1994 — making 1997 the year 86. (AP)

Fruits of labour

Moscow: Dockers in the southern Russian port of Taganrog, who are being paid in tins of pineapples because of a shortage of cash, are selling them on the streets to raise money for other food. (Reuters)

Israel accuses Arafat over brutal monastery eviction

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL: yesterday accused Yasser Arafat of abusing the Christian population under his jurisdiction after Palestinian police assaulted a Hebron monastery and brutally evicted the "White Russian" monks, severely beating two monks who needed hospital treatment.

The operation by several dozen members of Mr Arafat's security forces was a victory for the Russian Orthodox Patriarch, Aleksii II, who is struggling to recover church properties across the world lost during the Soviet era: to offshoot churches-in-exile known as "White Russians".

The assault on Abraham's Oak Russian Monastery has provoked an international outcry. Once evicted, the monks from the New York-based Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia were replaced by "Red Russian" clergymen from the Moscow-based Orthodox Church. The New York-based Russian Orthodox Archbishop Laurus, who opposes Patriarch Aleksii, condemned the forcible eviction as "a flagrant violation of international law".

The Government of Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday issued a detailed communiqué about the assault, claiming that one of the monks had been handcuffed and thrown to the ground where he was stamped on before being evicted. The Israelis claim that the violence violated the 1993 peace treaty with the PLO, with its pledge to respect religious rights of Jews, Christians, Muslims and Samaritans.

The move by the PLO forces followed a meeting last month between Patriarch Aleksii and Mr Arafat at which the Palestinian leader pledged to interfere in the bitter Russian church dispute and help the Red Russians to regain property in Palestinian areas. Yesterday, the White Russians said they now feared a similar assault on their monastery near Jericho in the West Bank.



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CURRENT ACCOUNTS	Gross %	Net %
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Meridian		
Up to £2,000	0.30%	0.24%
£2,000+	1.20%	1.00%
£10,000+	2.90%	2.36%
Home Management Account	0.30%	0.24%
16-18 year old Account	2.48%	1.98%
Overcash	2.96%	2.36%

OVERDRAFTS	Increased by	Per Month %	EAR %
Midland Bank Account	0.48%	1.09%	13.8%
Meridian			
Up to £2,000	0.48%	1.09%	13.8%
£2,000+	0.6%	1.05%	13.3%
£10,000+	0.6%	1.00%	12.6%
Unauthorised	0.3%	1.675%	24.9%

LOANS	Increased by	Per Annum %	APR
Save and Borrow	0.5%	21.75	23.4

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2 Year 7.00 5.60

1 Year 6.25 5.00

6 Months 6.00 4.80

Monthly Interest Gross % Net %

3 Year 7.00 5.60

2 Year 6.75 5.40

1 Year 6.00 4.80

6 Months 5.75 4.60

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Ivy on the trellis.
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Food for thought

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Dr Thomas Stuttford on the dangers of drinking fruit juice; the benefits of taking folic acid before pregnancy; a rare kidney disease; trouble with talcum powder; and why too many hospital patients die from pulmonary embolism

Leave the fruit juice for later

There would seem to be no healthier way of starting the day than to breakfast on a large glass of fruit juice and some honeyed toast. Yet scientists working in Cambridge have shown recently that the fructose in the honey, and to a lesser extent in fruit juices, causes a release of very low-density lipoproteins into the bloodstream if taken when a person is fasting. These lipoproteins are suspect blood fats which may later give rise to furred-up arteries. Breakfast should, in the opinion of the scientists, consist of polysaccharides such as porridge and cereals, with some protein if desired but not much fat.

Fruit juices, like bacon and eggs, are much better for the circulation if taken later in the day, when the body is more adept at coping with a fatty meal.

While the British breakfast was being derided in Cambridge, the American Academy of Paediatrics was attacking mothers who give their children too much fruit juice, allowing them to graduate from their babies' milk bottles to unlimited juices.

The paediatricians were not interested in the effect of fruit juices on children's arteries, but on the influence they might have on appetite, teeth and digestion. Too much juice is increasingly being diagnosed as the cause of otherwise inexplicable diarrhoea in toddlers.

The American Academy recommends that young children should not have more than half a pint of fruit juice daily. Some paediatricians would deny babies



Most children love fruit juice

aged less than six months any fruit juice at all, others recommend withholding it until the child is a year old.

Adult patients are quite often totally unaware that fruit juice is very rich in sugar, and therefore potentially fattening. An overweight person will describe his or her diet to the doctor but omit to mention fruit juice, thinking it of no greater relevance than a glass of water. Yet fruit juice takes the edge off the appetite, and can cause obesity in adults just as it can in children. Unfortunately, although fruit juice is rich in calories and many important vitamins, it is not complete nutritionally, so people of any age who rely on it can become malnourished while simultaneously becoming obese.

American paediatricians claim that under-fives who have easy access to fruit juices are three times more likely to be overweight, although shorter in stature than their more restrained contemporaries. Children who drink fruit juice should also use a straw, in the opinion of paediatricians, as this helps to protect teeth from contact with the sugary juice.

It would be a pity if adverse publicity stopped people from drinking fruit juice altogether. Fruit is rich in vitamin C, beta-carotene and probably a host of other antioxidants. Fruit is therefore a valuable part of any diet, particularly as the antioxidants are likely to have a long-term effect in reducing the incidence of heart disease, malignancies and even, possibly, various degenerative conditions. There also seems to be an association between antioxidant vitamins and people's resistance to infection.

Although vitamin supplements are valuable, there is evidence that these should not be used simply to replace vitamins derived from natural foods.

An excessive intake of fruit juice may increase the number of malnourished, overweight, stunted toddlers with decaying teeth, but the great majority of small children will, like their parents, benefit from a couple of glasses of fruit juice daily. The older generation would perhaps be wise, however, to wait until lunchtime before they have their daily ration.



Special glow: four-months pregnant Anna Rice carries the radiance of an expectant mother

THE vigorous campaign of the Health Education Authority to persuade women who could become pregnant to take additional folic acid is bearing fruit.

To reduce the incidence of central nervous system conditions such as spina bifida, cleft palate and other congenital abnormalities, increased folic acid in the form of small, tasteless tablets, should be taken before

Babies benefit from folic acid

conception, as well as during the first few months of pregnancy.

In 1993, only 2 per cent of women were taking additional folic acid when they became pregnant. This has now risen, to 30 per cent, and currently two

thirds of general practitioners are recommending extra folic acid to their patients. However, by the time they first see them it is often too late to gain maximum advantage.

This still leaves 70 per cent of women who are risking the welfare and physical fitness of their babies by failing to take folic acid while they are likely to become pregnant.

Kidney baby Chloe is one in five million

CHLOE GOODRUM, a three-year-old from Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, has just had her second kidney removed at Guy's Hospital, London. She is now dependent on dialysis. Chloe suffers from a very rare form of congenital renal failure, known as congenital nephrotic syndrome, or Finnish nephrotic syndrome.

Only one baby in five million is born with this syndrome, which is a familial condition inherited as an auto-somal recessive characteristic. This means that both parents must have been carrying the aberrant gene. The chances of two people carrying this defect, meeting, and then marrying, must be very remote.

The syndrome is present at birth, the renal failure soon supervenes, and the baby usually requires dialysis from about the age of one. Chloe has done well, but a kidney transplant offers the only hope of a normal life. Donor kidneys, always in short supply, have been scarcer since the advent of seat-belts in cars.

The risks of using talc

FOR SOME years, the danger to the patient from talcum powder which has come off the surgeon's glove during an abdominal operation has been recognised, and substitute powders recommended.

A new hazard has recently been reported in *GP Magazine*. Researchers at Yale University, aware of studies which showed that talcum powder when applied to a woman's abdomen and perineum can travel up the vagina and through the uterus before coming to rest near the ovaries, decided to investigate whether there was a link between the powder and cancer of the ovary.

The Yale team interviewed 1,000 women with cancer of the ovary, and found that they were 42 per cent more likely to have applied talcum powder than were a control group.

There was no obvious link between the frequency with which the powder was used, and the likelihood of developing cancer. There are several factors which may not have been taken into consideration, so these results should not cause alarm. But it would, perhaps, be as well to rely on a towel, rather than powder.

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Why there are too many clot deaths

Has your doctor recommended that you should have surgery? If so, are you overweight? Over 40? With a history of deep-vein thrombosis, pulmonary embolism or other thromboembolic troubles? Is the surgery for an orthopaedic, gynaecological or neurological condition? Is the surgery for a malignant condition, or have you suffered from any malignant condition? Will the operation be lengthy, or are you likely to be immobilised for a long time afterwards? When you go home, will you continue to be up and about as you were in the ward, or will you be pampered by relatives? If you are to have surgery, are you at a high risk of suffering a deep vein thrombosis which could be complicated by a potentially lethal pulmonary embolism?

It is not remarkable that 9 per cent of patients admitted to hospital die while there, but it is remarkable that 10 per cent of these deaths (0.9 per cent of all admissions) are the result of pulmonary embolism, because treatment is available which could reduce this mortality by 75 per cent. The tragedy is that many of the victims of pulmonary emboli are still comparatively young and might have expected many more years of active life.

A deep vein thrombosis is a clot which forms in the vein when a patient is inactive and the venous circulation is sluggish. Clots usually form in the veins in the legs or pelvis. Part of the thrombus, the clot, may break off and enter the pulmonary circulation, where, by obstructing a pulmonary vessel, it can cause destruction of such a large part of the lung that breathing is impossible, and one of the most sudden deaths known can follow.

More candid reports on hospital performance, including the release of mortality figures after similar operations, will serve to concentrate the minds of doctors on ways of keeping their patients alive. One of the most readily available means would be to make greater use of low molecular weight heparin as a prophylactic anti-coagulant before surgery with those patients who are in the high risk groups. Post-mortem examination demonstrates a deep vein thrombosis in eight out of ten patients who have died of a pulmonary embolism. Many of the patients would have had signs and symptoms of a deep vein

thrombosis, but these may be so mild as to be easily missed on clinical examination. Low molecular weight heparin is given before surgery, and is continued after the operation for at least ten days, or until the risk of thrombosis and embolism has passed.

Some British surgeons have been loath to use low molecular weight heparin routinely in high-risk patients. A survey conducted in 1993 showed that only 46 per cent of patients who were at increased risk - either because of the nature of their operation, their age, or general health - received this potentially lifesaving measure. This figure has now risen to 84 per cent. Other surgeons were using standard heparin, warfarin, or relied upon such mechanical anti-thrombotic measures as elastic surgical stockings or early mobility. An appreciable number of surgeons were not recommending any measures.

The value of low molecular weight heparin became established nearly ten years ago, when research was published in the *Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis*, and at about the same time, 16 different studies were analysed and reported on in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. These reports showed that without prophylactic anti-coagulation, 531 of every 1,000 at-risk patients who underwent surgery would have a deep vein thrombosis, and 51 would expect to have a pulmonary embolism. Of these, 19 would die.

The more old-fashioned standard heparin, which carries with it an increased risk of severe haemorrhage, improved the figures so that 250 would have a deep vein thrombosis, 24 would have an embolism, and a death rate of nine could be expected. With low molecular weight heparin, 125 could expect a deep vein thrombosis, 12 an embolism, and there would be a death rate of five per thousand.

As low molecular weight heparin has a greater effect on thrombus formation than does standard heparin, but has a smaller influence on platelet activity, it is unlikely to cause haemorrhage during the operation. It is cost-effective, for although it is costly, it would save much of the £220 million spent on the treatment of pulmonary emboli.

Are you at a high risk of suffering a deep vein thrombosis?

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Dealers going into a bidding frenzy at the futures exchange in London. When you're a high-rolling City whiz-kid, being pleasant doesn't seem a worthwhile option, and charm isn't considered a valuable commodity

Geoff is angry when we meet for lunch — a domestic drama has become a full-blown crisis. The caterers haven't enough lobster for that night's party in the marquee and the DJ will be late. A cloud now hangs over the SW10 "megabash" that this young City dealer is organising to celebrate payment of a bonus from his grateful employers. "It's not every day you trouser £200,000; the least you can do is have a decent thrash," he says irritably. His mobile phone plays the *Marseillaise* again. Less than 30 seconds into the conversation, Geoff is swearing loudly enough to startle a couple at the next table. The public school accent seems grossly at odds with the vile vocabulary and casual fluency with which his insults are delivered. After almost running out of profanities, Geoff adopts the clipped tones of a man whose disappointment outweighs anger. "Look, chums, this was going to be a big night and you have let me down badly. No bloody DJ until we're all under the table — this is a joke." It is not hard to dislike Geoff. He doesn't really cherish himself and admits that the therapist he sees twice a week "doesn't care for him much either." "I suppose I am a bit of a bastard, but that's the job. My firm expects 200 per cent from me and, in return, I expect the same commitment from the people I employ to provide me with a service — anything less is a total betrayal." Geoff, who will not allow his surname to be published, earns "more than is good for

'It's not every day you trouser £200,000'

In the City the bonus boys are back, as bold and brash as ever. Bill Frost meets one who admits that even his shrink can't stand him

him. A salary of £350,000 and bonuses beyond one's wildest dreams — his reward for dealing in anything from baked beans to sterling — have made him a "bit of a monster". Of course, he's not alone — the bonus boys are back in strength, but without the braces. For this new generation, the Black Thursday crash in August 1987, Black Monday two months later — when £100 billion was wiped from shares — and Black Wednesday in September 1992 — when the exchange-rate mechanism had the pound reeling on the ropes — are ancient history. Now the market is buoyant again, champagne sales are up in City wine bars and taxi drivers are on fat tips once more. With six-figure bonuses a commonplace, these new Masters of the Universe can afford to be generous. But Geoff's job, two failed relationships and "a bit of a problem with Charlie (cousin)" have soured his view of the human race. "Frankly, I

find it difficult to make friends with anyone who is not in my line of work and not making my kind of money."

His friend Rob admits, in broad Estuary English: "Geoff is not an easy bloke — but, then, I suppose few of us are."

"Geoff is a serious spender," says Rob. "He can afford to be

'I find it hard to make friends with people who aren't in my line of work and don't make my kind of money'

— he's paid on results, and his are among the best on the block."

The conversation is again interrupted by the trill of a mobile phone. Geoff's garden party in Parsons Green seems safe after all — there is enough lobster and it looks as though the DJ will be on time.

"So where do you want to begin?" he asks, chopping and lighting a Romeo y Julieta cigar. No question is necessary, however, as Geoff launches into a well-rehearsed CV which has the couple at the next table intently listening once more.

"I'm 29 and in my prime. Things can only get better for the next five years and by then

I will have made enough to get out," he says.

"My folks are from Dorset and rather well off. I never really worried about the future because I always knew there was a safety net."

"My A levels were crap, but I am streetwise and there was an uncle in the City with connections. I didn't disappoint him — I'm a natural when taking risks with other people's money."

His first salary cheque was a little "underwhelming". However, the backroom job confirming deals (a paltry £23,000 a year) was a stepping stone to greatness.

"Once you start dealing successfully, the sky is the limit. The old guys who don't have the bottle to do it themselves pay us Young Turks to take the risks for them."

"Providing you don't mess up, they'll let you have your head and pay you a drop-dead salary. Once I made the transition from the backroom to the limelight, I decided I had to look and act the part. I bought a place in Docklands when the market was relatively low and began having suits made for me."

"I bought the flat when the market was low and sold when it was hotting up — that was a profit of about £40,000. At about the same time I got a company car — a top of the range 7 Series BMW."

The first bonus — "a week's hard graft well rewarded with £100K" — came when Geoff decided to move from the East End to a £350,000 home in Parsons Green. "The best bit of

Fulham". He took out a mortgage to cover the shortfall and within a couple of months was able to pay off the bank.

"The house must be worth £600K now — it's a great feeling when you're on a roll. I kept on winning... whatever I touched turned to gold."

"I bought a place in Norfolk for £110,000 and a BMW soft-top 5 Series for my then girlfriend, Philly. I thought we were going to last but it all went down the tubes."

"I was working seven to seven and partying before going home. She put up with a lot I suppose, so I let her keep the Beemer."

As his salary rose, Geoff began to party more furiously in the few hours left free to him. "I got into the Charlie because it helps you make the best of your leisure time, or so I thought."

"It never interfered with work but was death to my second relationship, with Julia. When I did come home, I wasn't much fun to be with — yammering on about work and the next day's deal."

Geoff has broken his habit now, but only after a senior colleague compelled him to seek help. "I was still making the money but apparently being a bit of a bastard. And when you are no longer clubbable among your own, that is very bad news."

He will not discuss his rehabilitation but is willing to explain how he became "open to temptation". A disposable income of £18,000 every month is very hard to spend, he says, much to the fury of the couple at the next table.

"I've no mortgage to pay, the company now coughs up for the car of my choice and no matter how many new suits I

buy, nightclubs or flash restaurants I use, there is still cash spilling about."

"Sure, this isn't going to last, but I am putting money aside for my real life post-30. I have this dream of buying a vine-

yard near St Emilion and having my name on the label."

Geoff's reverie is interrupted by the *Marseillaise* being played again and cigar ash drops on his suit. "Yes, on my way," he snarls at the mobile.

"Great bloke," says Rob, as we watch his friend flag down a taxi. "He's a toff and I'm from Chigwell but we get on famously."

"I'm 25 now, and by the time I'm Geoff's age, I'm going to be on Geoff's money. It's Hugo Boss suits at the moment but, give it a year or so, and I'll be threaded up in Savile Row, too."

I ask Rob: Is Geoff happy, though? He pauses for a second and chews on a fingernail.

"Well wouldn't you be on that wedge?" he asks. "You've got the salary, the cars, the suits, the women, the whole life package... only a plank wouldn't see that as a major life result."

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I may be clumsy, but I'm right

Robert Ayling rejects charges that BA is union-busting

As I write this there is strong evidence that the British Airways cabin crew strike called by the British Airlines Stewards' and Stewardesses' Association (Bassa, part of the TGWU) is not getting backing. I want to thank all my colleagues who supported their company and our customers for working yesterday.

John Monks, writing on this page in yesterday's *Times*, says, "there can be few readers of the *Socialist Worker* in the staff lounges at Gatwick and Heathrow", yet on the very first day of the strike, who should be distributing leaflets outside Hutton Cross Tube station, but the Socialist Workers' Party?

John Monks claims that British Airways' management is setting out on an exercise of union-busting.

He also says that 44 of Britain's top 50 companies recognise unions. British Airways is one of those 44 and British Airways recognises more trade unions than any other company of comparable size. Is that union-busting?

I meet our senior staff representatives every month and quarterly with national union officers. At these meetings, I discuss openly and candidly the company's business and I answer any questions we are asked. Is that union-busting?

I have no intention of changing these arrangements. We are not union-busting. We have no plans to de-unionise our business, although our UK-based long-haul competitor, Virgin, does not recognise unions.

John Monks could not be more wrong, and I am disappointed to see, does not actually understand the impact of competition and the need for change. In order to continue to be the World's Favourite Airline and maintain our market leader position, we have to be more competitive. To do that we have to persuade our workforce to give up old-fashioned working practices and pay structures. We have negotiated such arrangements with 30,000 of our UK staff — the vast majority. We have introduced an excellent deal for our cabin crew which achieves the efficiencies we need, while ensuring that crew will not have to work longer hours and guaranteeing that they will not lose pay.

We held five months of talks with the two cabin crew unions. In March, Bassa walked away from the talks and rejected pay restructuring. Cabin Crew 89 continued to negotiate and we reached an agreement with them. We offered this agreement to Bassa. They did not halt their members on this offer; instead they balloted for a strike. Incidentally, contrary to what John Monks says, Bassa went on strike in 1989, 1991 and 1993 and they threatened strikes in 1994 and 1996.

Now they have gone on strike again. Our offer remains on the table and, again, contrary to what John Monks

says, on Tuesday our negotiators went through the proposed agreement in detail with Jack Adams, of the TGWU, and George Ryde, of Bassa, word by word and line by line.

Nevertheless, Bassa went on strike yesterday. John Monks says he wants to "hit British Airways hard" and then accuses us of being heavy handed and intimidatory. To support his "moderate position", the International Transport Workers' Federation has unlawfully asked unions internationally to support Bassa's strike and the union membership is picketing airports (secondary action). The people who are going to be "hit hard" are our customers. Is that what John Monks wants?

I deeply regret the disruption that our customers are experiencing and we are doing everything possible to help them, including giving a total refund.

We want to reach agreement with our employees and their unions and are ready to do so, but we cannot do it at the expense of British Airways' future competitiveness.

If we have appeared heavy handed or clumsy, I apologise. Let's clear that misunderstanding away from this dispute. What seems to us to lie at the heart of Bassa's position is its desire to bust Cabin Crew 89, which it describes as a "rump union" and a "mouthpiece of the management". If there is a hidden agenda, this is it.

Bassa's language seems rather an odd way to describe 3,300 of your union colleagues, particularly in the current industrial world of modern unions working in partnership with management. John Monks says "partnership must be the watchword for the millennium and beyond", and that is what British Airways is trying to do. A partnership with its workforce. Strikes cannot create partnerships.

As I stood outside Heathrow yesterday morning, greeting the staff who were coming to work, they said to me: "Don't give up, Bob. We understand why you have had to make these changes."

Well, we do have to make these changes. We do not think winning or losing is relevant to this dispute. What we want Bassa to do is to come back to the negotiating table and, to accept the agreement we have reached with Cabin Crew 89. Perhaps the most important part of the agreement we are putting forward is that we guarantee that nobody will be worse off than they were before, and should that turn out to be the case during the next three years, we have a guarantee to give them back what they have lost.

If only Bassa could give back to the customers what they have lost, and what the airline has lost as a result of the union's industrial action.

The author is chief executive of British Airways.



New fat cats, old envy

As voters scrutinise Labour's aristocracy, the Government's image is sure to suffer

At the election, new Labour won the battle of images in the press much more decisively than they won the argument. Most political commentators, apart from Labour partisans, treated John Major's campaign with respect, even though they knew that the Conservatives were losing. Most economic writers expressed admiration for Kenneth Clarke's work as Chancellor, and accepted his view that the economy had seldom been stronger. New Labour did, however, win quite conclusively in those gossipy and near-gossipy stories which decided the image war. The voters came to believe that the Conservatives were riddled with sleaze, both financial and sexual, and that they were the party of the "fat cats".

Some of this gossip campaign was justified. The *Guardian* depended on the questionable evidence of Mohamed Al Fayed, but it won notable libel victories over Neil Hamilton before the election and Jonathan Aitken since it. The writs and money stories undoubtedly damaged the Conservatives, and justifiably so. The accusations of sexual impropriety had little bearing on the capacity of ministers. Indeed, the minister who had most mistresses made a comeback and turned out to be one of the successes of the election campaign. Yet the gossip did create a general image which was very damaging.

The harm done by personal stories is not primarily concerned with issues of government, but with public resentment at the contrast between the lifestyles of the glittering rich and of ordinary voters. People resent fat cats being paid large salaries, regardless of the quality of the work they do. It is enough to say that somebody is paid £100,000 or £500,000 or a million pounds for people to say that the sum is "obscene": all these large sums are thought to be equally unacceptable. This is not the resentment of the poor, who are a minority, but of the relatively prosperous mass of voters, including Tory readers of the *Daily Mail*.

The rich seem to live in a different world. I am not sure how one would now define "rich" in the 1990s. It is not so much a question of capital — except for the very richest, capital is what people retire on, but income is what they live on. There are now again some extremely large incomes. The highest earners have incomes of

more than £1 million a year — there are said to be barristers who earn comfortably more than that, let alone successful businessmen, or sports and pop stars. The fashionably rich probably start at an income of about £200,000 a year; much lower incomes than that may be very handsome to live on, but do not really belong to the world of *Hello!*

Any government from now on is bound to be surrounded by celebrity high-earners, almost all of them self-made. They find new Labour's strongly meritocratic approach rather flattering. The more these high-earners support Labour, the more the gossip columns will portray Labour as the natural party for the fat cats. Indeed, fat cats have always gone where the cream is, and the cream jug now belongs to new Labour.

This adverse publicity has already started. Cherie Blair's £2,000 hairdo, Lord Simon of Highbury holding on to £2 million of BP shares, the BBC's combination of pay rises for top people with redundancies elsewhere, are all part of this week's news. The *Daily Mail* is the newspaper that foreign ambassadors have to read for British middle-class gossip. Cherie Blair's hairdo, a story which was first broken on Sunday, became on Monday a double-page spread in *Femail*, with 15 separate pictures of various Cherie Blair hairstyles. There was even a "defence" of Cherie Blair, "Stop picking on Cherie", in Peter McKay's gossip column. When Peter McKay starts to defend you, you must be in trouble.

In political terms, the Lord Simon story is much the more important. As a minister, it is doubtful whether he should retain so large a shareholding in a company with which his department is dealing continually, even though he is not involved in those dealings and has undertaken not to trade in those shares while he is in office. He failed to enter his BP shareholding in the House of Lords register. That register does leave room for discretion, but a £2 million

holding surely could "affect the public perception of the way in which they [the peers] perform their parliamentary duties".

Tuesday's *Daily Mail* had another damaging article, by Gerald Kaufman, the Labour Member for Gorton; he used to be an excellent Shadow Foreign Secretary. His article was headed "The arrogance of these BBC fat cats", and attacked the salaries of John Birt (£354,000), Ron Neil (£226,000) and Will Wyatt (£231,000). These are, as Kaufman argues, high salaries for people in the public sector, though they are not unusual in the private sector. These high BBC salaries are now seen as a responsibility of the Labour Government. Indeed, Kaufman himself tells Chris Smith "to call in Birt and Co and in words of not more than two syllables, explain to them exactly what public service means".

The *Express* on Tuesday was equally subversive. Anthony Holden linked another fat, though highly talented, cat to a controversial government decision, the Greenwich Dome. "Tony Blair overruled [Chris] Smith's sound objections to the squandering of £850 million on a millennium party in Greenwich, further snubbing him by putting Peter Mandelson in charge of it (as of pretty much everything else). In vain, Smith tried to talk Blair out of a project close to the heart of his son Euan — and even closer to that of his friend Lord (Richard) Rogers, the architect whose £250 million dome will be the star of the show." Poor Chris Smith is now lumbered with an £850 million party, a £250 million dome and John Birt's £350,000 salary.

This is not serious scandal, but it is money gossip, and the public is fascinated by money. The point is that they do not live like the rest of us. The Royal Family suffer from this contrast, but they are, after all, royal. From the Labour Party this is not expected; a democratic party of the Left cannot afford an image of

privilege. As Jane Gordon put it in the *Daily Mail*: "For most people £2,000 is a fortune. Many of those who put Tony Blair into power would consider themselves lucky to earn that in a month."

All political parties need to keep close to their roots. The life we read about in the gossip columns is familiar enough to the voters of Kensington and Chelsea, and it does Alan Clark no harm at all to own a castle, great works of art and a pile of inherited money. Such a way of life is not familiar to ordinary voters in Labour constituencies and is therefore bad for the party's image.

When she flew her hairdresser to Denver at her own expense, Cherie Blair thought she was putting on a good presentation for Britain — a perfectly reasonable attitude. It does not play like that out in the country. In Central Fife, where I spent part of the election, they measure their incomes in pounds per week, not in hundreds of thousands per year. They do not understand, let alone accept, my own view that John Birt is probably underpaid at £350,000. They do not understand a Labour minister — who happens to be an exceptionally able businessman — having problems over declaring £2 million in shares. That is not their world.

Gossip columns are popular because they write about the ordinary experiences of celebrated lives. Voters are mainly influenced by the impact of politics on their own lives, but also partly by things which interest and amuse them: by the hairstyle, by the smile, by a momentary lifting of an eyebrow, by gossip, by all that creates an image. That may indeed make Cherie Blair's personal image a matter of state; her style may win as many votes as Gordon Brown's Budget. Yet the cost of her image-making is itself a secret of state that the Labour Party should never have allowed to get out.

I feel sympathy for Cherie Blair, who seems to be coping well with a role she did not seek. I have no sympathy for the new Labour spin-doctors. Labour saw that this manipulation of images was vital to its political survival, with its short attention span. They exploited the opportunity. Now they are starting to get a taste of their own medicine.

William Rees-Mogg

Uneasy rider

WHAT started as an unsteady crocodile of 30 MPs on their annual all-party bicycle ride from Covent Garden to Westminster yesterday morning turned into a Whitehall farce, dragging in the police and innocent members of the public. The main culprit was the Transport Minister, Gavin Strang, a man with the voice and manner of a bear with a nasty splinter.

As the MPs tottered into Trafalgar Square at about 9am, Strang

edged ahead, going straight through a red light and taking the rest of the pack with him. "They came out of nowhere," said one onlooker, "and jumped the lights at the top of the square."

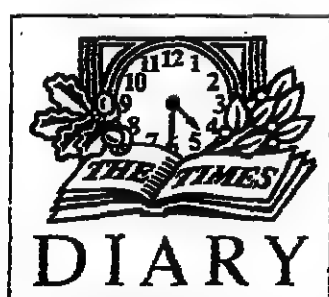
MPs or not, the policeman by the lights was having none of it. He radioed down to his colleague at the bottom of the square, where the peloton was stopped and stiffly rebuked. Strang, already looking horribly uncomfortable in a baggy black tracksuit, trainers and cycle helmet, squirmed like a stuck eel before the law.

Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby, who was taking part in the procession, was grateful to emerge from the ride in one piece. "The traffic was suspiciously close as we lumbered along the route, but no one got hit."

Peter Bottomley, MP, Tory wet, joined in after the brush with the police, and hopes the incident will have positive repercussions. "The next step should be for the Government to arrange a cycle lane from Trafalgar Square to Westminster."

Rally round

NO SOONER have Sean and Peter returned from last week's Gay



Pride March in London, than two more characters, from *The Archers* are on their way to the Big Smoke for today's Countryside Rally.

There had been some doubt that the Radio 4 soap would even mention the rally for fear of antagonising the anti-bloodsports people. The producers, however, have thought better of that and decided that George and Christine Barford should join the pro-hunting throng in Hyde Park.

Meanwhile, at the real event, the genuine farming types have no plans to dispense with one of their most popular banners, which reads: "This is real life, not *The Archers*."

● Enjoying the form at Newmarket yesterday, was Paul Ince, England's winningly tough football midfielder, expected to move from Inter Milan to Liverpool this week. He is planning to buy a horse. "I want a bit of fun, but I also want a

horse that can win," said Ince. He is prepared to pay between £30,000 and £40,000, about a week's wages, for his horse. "I could just spend two grand," said Ince. "But you can't buy much for that".

School break

THE bean-counters at Solihull's local education authority were praying for the success of a party held last night in Camden, and attended by Jon Snow, Channel 4's news anchor, Peter Mandelson, the Minister with no Portfolio but an awful lot of power, the comedian Frank Skinner and Nick Harris, the author. The bash was to raise money for a Higgashi-type school for autistic children in North London, very similar to the



"Here's another of Jane and me in the departure lounge"

special school in Boston, Massachusetts, to which Solihull LEA was ordered on Monday by the High Court to send a local autistic boy, at a cost of £50,000 a year.

The Treehouse Trust is the brainwave of Katharine Doré, mother of an autistic child herself. She needs to raise £350,000 to have her first school up and running by January. Snow, a patron of the trust, says: "Having lived in the United States, where there are many schools like this, I think it is about time we had one over here." In Solihull, they are nodding vigorously.

● After leaving the Civil Service to become the Leader of Opposition's official softer side, Ffion Jenkins has found she is so in demand that she is having to turn down offers of work. She already has various offers to write for newspapers. When the Association of Business Sponsors for the Arts (Absa) approached her about the possibility of becoming a board member, however, Miss Jenkins had to say no. Colin Tweedie, the head of Absa, and the person believed to have made the advance to Miss Jenkins, is in the Caribbean, setting up a Trinidadian Absa.

More, please

WHEN Tony Blair asked Lord Nolan to continue with his sleaze-



Ffion Jenkins: in demand

busting activities, Nolan declined the offer. The reason? Nolan explained on Tuesday that he was feeling guilty that his work on setting standards in public life was distracting him from his main job as a law lord.

While the other law lords had as many as seven judgments on the go at any one time, Nolan had only two or so. Worried that his fellow lords might feel he was bunking off by continuing his sleaze-watch, he thought it was high time he returned to his day job.

Our first classes of citizens

David Alton says we need lessons in duties, not rights

Among the many issues raised by the new White Paper on Education, the most neglected has been the role of schools in forming citizens. There will be arguments about whether civics should reappear as a narrow subject — looking at constitutional questions — or whether a wider concern for citizenship should be integrated into every aspect of the school timetable. If an obligation is placed within the national curriculum, who will teach it, what new resources will be provided, will there be examinations and will inspectors assess its delivery?

But there will be little argument about the principle of educating for democracy and the importance of forming rounded citizens. The battle to redress the shrill language of rights and the flaccid rhetoric of entitlements with a richer concern for duties and responsibilities is almost won.

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, was a member of the Weatherill commission on citizenship, which in 1990 declared that "citizenship should be a part of every young person's education from the earliest years of schooling and continuing into the post-school years within further and higher education". There is no reason to believe that Mr Blunkett's views have changed.

The role of education in the formation of citizens became the central concern of Frances Lawrence after her husband, Philip, was stabbed to death outside his London school. Various publications — Mrs Lawrence's personal manifesto in *The Times*, David Selbourne's *The Principle of Duty*, Arnold Etzioni's *The Spirit of Community* and *The Politics of Hope* by the Chief Rabbi, Jonathan Sacks — have each played a part in challenging the orthodoxes of individualism and rights.

At St Andrews, at Leicester, and at the John Moores University, Liverpool, there has been significant work on values, education and the development of citizenship. The Vice-Chancellor of John Moores, Professor Peter Toyns, says that "citizenship stems from the process of education". His is the first British university to commit itself to developing concepts of citizenship among its students. The part played by formal education has also been recognised by the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) and reflected in the establishment of the Values Education Council (VEC).

Historically, universities and schools recognised their role in preparing men and women for their private and public lives. However, one of the casualties of the rush towards a more individualistic approach has been civic responsibility. Only in Britain would we turn "community service" into a punishment.

Even the narrow preparation for citizenship represented by civics courses in many secondary schools has been lost. Now we need a sustained, rigorous and properly funded approach to replace the "mission statements" of many educational institutions which simply pay lip-service to citizenship.

For most young people, civic education is acquired through contacts with voluntary projects, their teachers, or because of an event or political policy which directly affects them. We must be far more systematic and ask tough questions about the purpose of education, about what is expected of democratic citizens, and about the skills we each require to live peacefully. It is part of the mission of a school or university to form men and women for others.

How a citizen acts as a moral agent affects everything from how they treat their environment and their neighbours to the pursuit of ethical standards in commerce or the embrace of civic duties. It is not a spectator sport or the preserve of a few well-meaning specialists.

These are not new concerns. For Aristotle, communal existence was not about forms of government but about the human qualities which made civic coexistence a possibility. Unlike Socrates, Aristotle believed that civic virtue could and should be taught. Cicero also saw the need for active participation. "The whole glory of virtue is in activity."

The 20th-century Marxist obsession with production, the division of labour and class structures has been matched by individualistic indifference in our own times. The disfigurement of civic culture and the suppression of civil order have been the principal casualties. If a civil society is to withstand the ambitions of those who wish to usurp it, fundamental shared principles must be widely held and understood.

Every generation needs to address these same questions. In the 19th century, Carlyle called it "the condition of England question". As we consider the condition of Britain's 20th-century social ecology, there are the key questions which this welcome White Paper seeks to address.

Lord Alton, who was a Liberal Democrat MP for 15 years and is now Professor of Citizenship at John Moores University, Liverpool, took his seat in the House of Lords this week as a crossbencher.



Strang: traffic violation

SAWBONES
The surgeon who



RURAL MARCHERS

The Commons should listen to the country case

Mutual incomprehension between town and country is nothing new. Classical satire and Restoration drama made sport of the differences centuries before the Industrial Revolution forever altered relations between the two. Those relations, complicated by misunderstandings but balanced by tolerance, now face new strains with a House of Commons apparently hostile to one of the traditional and familiar features of country life, hunting with hounds. Today's Countryside Rally in Hyde Park reflects deep concern that the feelings of *rus* are neglected in *urbs*.

The countryside who have marched on London should remind Members of the new Parliament, who will flourish their majority and mandate, that settled traditions and the liberties of minorities also have their claim. Using a Private Member's Bill to make outlaws of thousands who enjoy themselves as Britons always have, and to make unemployment statistics of thousands more, does not seem a One Nation measure. The relationship between urban morals and country matters requires delicate brokerage; but when decisions will be made by a predominantly metropolitan assembly it is right that those outside should organise to make themselves heard.

The arguments on hunting are not as simple as either side is sometimes inclined to protest. Those who campaign to ban what they believe is an offensive spectacle often appear animated more by hatred of pink coats and broad acres than love of all God's creatures. Anger at perceived cruelty overcomes a wider assessment of conservation and nature's balance. Shooting or gassing are far from being gentler methods of population control. Banning hunting would lead to thousands of hounds being put down and some 8,000 jobs placed in danger. It would also alter the pattern of country life. Social events which bring rural communities together, from point-to-points to the hunt's own calendar, will disappear. For country people, a ban on hunting means more than just the end to one recreation; it changes forever the rhythm of rural life.

The consequences of a ban should give pause for thought, but those who wish to see hunting continue should not harm their case

with hyperbole. Employment alone, although important, is not a clinching case. As with other sports in the past, pistol-shooting recently, and even boxing now, if society becomes convinced that the pursuit is no longer civilised then those who make their livings from it have a claim on our sympathy, but no veto.

If the economics are not decisive, neither are the ethics. The libertarian case for hunting is powerful but should not be overstated. Wherever possible, when the rights of other citizens are not infringed, the activities of minorities, unless profoundly distasteful, should not be banned. When that activity is, as hunting is, governed by tradition and ceremony as well as embedded in the affections of communities, then it has an additional claim to tolerance. That tolerance cannot, however, be absolute. The profound distaste of many opponents is wholly genuine. The ability to hunt is not, like freedom of speech or habeas corpus, a fundamental liberty which, if denied, would mark a step towards repression.

If the settled, and informed, wish of a serious majority is in favour of a ban, that decision could not be resisted by an appeal to abstract rights. Hunting has developed in a social context: its future depends on the understanding of changed social realities. Supporters of hunting need to win public consent beyond their natural circles to ensure their sport's survival. Today's rally could be a beginning.

A positive, broad-based and uncorrupted assertion of the country case should command attention. Members of Parliament have a duty to inform themselves better about the facts and to appreciate the subtleties of the debate. The Government is pledged to offer a free vote but, given the huge consequences of any change for rural communities, that vote should come only after the arguments have been properly reviewed. It may be that a measure of regulation, rather than an outright ban, is the better course. In the meantime this Parliament has any number of measures it should be concentrating on to strengthen the nation before it embarks on a path that will, at the moment, only divide.

TWO PRIME MINISTERS

How joint rule in Cambodia led to no rule at all

The conflict that savaged Cambodia for two decades, and claimed at least a million lives before UN-supervised elections in 1993, appears likely to return. Supporters of Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the ousted First Prime Minister, streamed out of Phnom Penh yesterday after the sudden assault by troops loyal to the Second Prime Minister, Hun Sen. From Beijing, the stricken figure of King Norodom Sihanouk appealed for reconciliation. Prince Ranariddh himself sits powerless in Paris.

The 1993 elections were rightly seen at the time as a triumph for international diplomacy. A free and fair contest was conducted under enormously complicated conditions. Turnout surpassed all expectations. The \$2 billion spent by the United Nations appeared a sound investment. Although Prince Ranariddh and his Funcinpec party emerged victorious, the military might of Hun Sen and his Cambodian People's Party could not be overlooked. An uneasy compromise was cobbled together which allowed the two men both to take the title of Prime Minister.

That arrangement invited disharmony. Competition between the two camps has intensified as elections scheduled for next May approached. Under the Constitution only one Prime Minister could emerge from that contest. Associates of the Khmer Rouge remnants became a critical constituency as the forces of Prince Ranariddh and Hun Sen sought ways to increase their strength. The success of the royalists at detaching Khmer Rouge factions from Pol Pot — part of which involved claims that the ex-dictator had either died or been captured — prompted Hun Sen to oust his co-Prime Minister.

While the capital and surrounding areas appear to be under Hun Sen's control,

conflict may now resume in the periphery. Funcinpec remains strong in the north and north west of the country. The disparate Khmer Rouge is still significant in the far west. Matters are further complicated by the duplicitous role played by Thailand's Army which has consistently exploited Cambodia's agony for its own benefit. Unless a coalition government is restored in Phnom Penh then civil war will swiftly follow.

The outside world has a limited but not irrelevant influence. Cambodia had been on the verge of membership of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) — an important step in its integration into the wider region. That body meets in emergency session in Kuala Lumpur today to reconsider its position. It should not proceed with the admission process. International donors had last week pledged — but not yet paid — a further \$450 million in aid. They too should reserve their position. Overseas contributions constitute half of Cambodia's budget revenues. Suspension of support might persuade Hun Sen to reopen dialogue.

The breakdown in Cambodia suggests a wider lesson. Multiparty elections are, of course, crucial but not by themselves enough to ensure peace and progress. In Cambodia much of the infrastructure of authoritarianism — including a secret police network — remained in place after the United Nations left. It has been slowly reactivated and finally unleashed this week. Stable democracy requires the creation of an alternative pluralist infrastructure. That has been the secret behind the extraordinary transformation of the Philippines. This task would have been exceptionally complicated in Cambodia. In the improbable event of a second chance it should still be attempted.

SAWBONES OF CARATACUS

The surgeon who took his tools to the grave

The Roman medical kit found in the burial site in Colchester takes the history of British medicine back centuries. These beautiful instruments probably belonged to the professional forerunner of the President of the Royal College of Surgeons. The burial shows that this first recorded native surgeon was not Roman, but a Briton of the ruling class. This was the moment when medicine was beginning its slow transition from Druidical magic and mistletoe to science.

Surgery has always followed the drum. The Battle of the Medway in 43 AD, one of the most critical battles fought on British soil, and the final stand of the British tribes at Camulodunum/Colchester, will have given primitive surgeons plenty of practice. Their instruments, now unearthed at Colchester, are evidence of the unbroken traditions of British medicine. The pretty little iron saw for amputations supports the definition of "minor surgery" as an operation performed on somebody else. The sharp hook may have been used for removing tonsils, an operation that was to become more fashionable than beneficial. And the scalpels, tweezers and retractor for keeping wounds open have become familiar prop-

erties to be passed in theatre into the rubber-gloved hand of the heroic surgeon.

But it took many centuries for the surgeon to become a folk hero. The ancient Company of Barber-Surgeons put the barbers first because their cutting activity was more likely to succeed. British satirists were almost as rude about the quackery of the healing professions as Molière and Voltaire. And when medicine finally became a science rather than the nation's number one killer, its Victorian heroes were the physicians. Because their prognosis was so uncertain, surgeons were still popularly regarded much as barbers and butchers. It took two world wars and the astonishing advances in surgical technology to turn them into modern heroes for princesses and the public.

In the medicine chest of the first known British surgeon there are two rods. These are not surgical tools but divination rods. The predecessor of the high-tech masters of modern surgery knew that his craft depended on luck as well as skill. The body is still a mystery as well as a machine. And the surgical aphorism that the Romans brought to their farthest northern province still stands: life is short, art long.

MRC's decision threatens science

From Professor Sir Henry Harris, FRS

Sir, The Medical Research Council has recently announced that from 1998 it intends to phase out "stand-alone" grants made in response to proposals from individual scientists or from small groups of scientists.

Hitherto, grants of this kind have generated scientific discoveries and developments of worldwide importance. The link between vitamin D and rickets and the efficacy of penicillin as a chemotherapeutic agent are two notable examples.

Other instances are cephalosporin, transplantation immunity, the immunological role of the lymphocyte, the amino acid sequence of insulin, and the three-dimensional structure of haemoglobin and DNA. So, too, are cell fusion and tumour suppressor genes, and methods for determining nucleotide sequences.

I happen to know, or to have known, all the scientists responsible for these discoveries; all were "stand-alone" individuals or members of small "stand-alone" groups. Can the MRC produce a comparable list emanating from large collaborative groups which it is now set to favour?

Even the MRC's showpiece, the Laboratory of Molecular Biology at Cambridge, was initially formed simply by gathering together under one roof individuals who had already made major discoveries elsewhere.

I do not, of course, argue against the principle of scientific collaboration. However, it is a principle which needs to be sensitively encouraged, not forced, and occurs only if the collaborators perceive a genuine advantage in the collaboration.

If people are obliged to collaborate in order to receive governmental funding, as the MRC scheme suggests, then their collaboration will be nominal only, or even spurious. Centres of excellence cannot be set up like supermarkets. Nor can they be generated merely by the provision of infrastructure; they grow slowly, out of the talents of individual people.

If the MRC seeks to ensure the future of British medical research, it must find a way of inducing gifted young graduates to take up the life. To do this, it must make a scientific career more attractive, not less. Otherwise, British medical research will have become a thing of the past. No amount of administrative rearrangement can substitute for talent.

It is high time that the Medical Research Council gave more thought to people, and less to administrative structures.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY HARRIS,
Sir William Dunn School of Pathology,
University of Oxford,
South Parks Road, Oxford,
July 7.

Rural England's needs

From the Chief Executive of Action with Communities in Rural England

Sir, The Countryside Rally in London on July 10 (reports, July 9) will do much to bring rural issues to the attention of our new Government. I hope that it will not also lead them to view rural issues as the preserve of the country sports lobby. Eleven million people live in rural England, and their concerns are as real and significant as those of England's city dwellers. The vast majority have no interest in country sports, and their needs will not be represented by this rally.

Many people in our rural areas experience problems of poverty, isolation and an apparently irretrievable decline of services and welfare provision. Rural areas need investment in regeneration to the same extent as the rest of the country and there are many voluntary organisations working to tackle social need, which is as real in rural areas as elsewhere. Most of them will not be in Hyde Park on Thursday.

We need government support to build a more positive future for rural England. We hope that the countryside lobby will not divert the government from the serious priorities that the rural voluntary sector shares with them.

Yours faithfully,
LES ROBERTS,
Chief Executive,
Action with Communities in Rural England,
Somerford Court, Somerford Road,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire,
July 9.

Mrs Blair's hair

From Mrs Juliet E. Clibborn

Sir, We are lucky enough to have a Prime Minister's wife who wished to look her best at the G7 summit ("MP splits hairs over Cherie Blair's presidential coiffure", July 7). She has sufficient money of her own to pay for her hairdresser. Where is the problem?

Yours faithfully,
JULIET CLIBBORN,
Les Bordes,
09102 Foix, France,
July 7.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 6XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Orangemen 'blind to Catholic hurt'

From Dr Noel McCune

Sir, Your leading article ("The only option", July 7) was impressively fair to Unionists and Orangemen. I dearly wish that they fully deserved such fairness: that they only partly do is due to their self-righteousness and resultant insensitivity to the hurt of many in the Catholic community.

Of course republicans are actively manipulating the feelings of Catholic people, but the fact is that in the Garvaghy Road area of Portadown genuine hurt does exist. That hurt demanded a rights-denying gesture of goodwill on the part of Orangemen. Sadly most Orangemen and Unionists are blind to that hurt, partly at least because they only see their own (which is considerable after years of IRA violence).

I have all that the IRA has done in the last 27 years — none of it is justified. But the civil rights protests of the Sixties were all justified and then, as now, Unionists and Orangemen didn't see — some chose not to see — the hurt which necessitated Catholic protest. Unless they see soon, their blindness will be their downfall.

Yours faithfully,
NOEL McCUNE,
11 Ardfeelin, Newry, Co. Down,
July 8.

From Mr Winston S. Churchill

Sir, It is understandable that the Orange Order should claim the right to parade peacefully — a basic right taken for granted in any normal democracy. However, they know — and the nationalists certainly know — that these marches, where they pass through nationalist communities, are planned as a deliberate provocation,

intended to remind all concerned just who won the Battle of the Boyne more than 300 years ago.

The Chief Constable of the RUC and the Northern Ireland Secretary clearly had a difficult decision to take if large-scale violence was to be avoided. The trouble with their decision was that it was based upon no point of principle, but upon appeasement — the worst basis possible. The explanation offered for sanctioning the march through nationalist areas of Drumcree was that not to allow it to take place would lead to a confrontation with, and likely violence from, the loyalist community. It was predictable that it would be seen as a provocation by the nationalist community and an invitation to outdo any violence seen at Drumcree last year. Once a government bows to threats of violence, it is inevitable that those threats — from both sides — will escalate.

The only basis on which to take such decisions in respect of marches scheduled for later this week and in the future must be upon a clear point of principle. That principle, I would suggest, is that marches by either side should not be allowed to be routed through "opposition" communities. In the case of Drumcree, that might have meant the loyalist marchers having to return from their church service by the same route that they had come. No doubt they would have made known their extreme displeasure, but at least the Government would have taken a stand on a basis that was justifiable to both communities.

Yours faithfully,
WINSTON S. CHURCHILL,
White's Club,
37 St James's Street, SW1,
July 9.

Drugs legislation

From Mr Tim Rathbone

Sir, In echoing the views of cannabis legalisers of 30 years ago, Nigel Williamson (letter, July 3) shows scant regard for what has been learnt in the meantime.

Then few foresaw the horrible growth in misuse of cannabis and other drugs; now there is general national and international consensus on the need to reduce demand as well as supply and to tackle trafficking vigorously.

Then there was little understanding of the psychological and physical harm incurred by misusing drugs, legal and illegal; now that harm has been proven by research and experience and the need for better and more available treatment recognised.

The Conservative Government, under pressure from Parliament, at last started to come to grips with the problem and to co-ordinate efforts inter-departmentally, ending up with a Cabinet sub-committee which continues today. But that Government's efforts were tragically set back by its stupid decision to do away with drugs and health co-ordinators in schools. This was only rectified with the setting

up in 1995 of an all-embracing strategy, Tackling Drugs Together, aimed at improving the quantity and quality of health education. All young people, from a very early age, must become aware of the harm drugs can do and the value and pleasure of a drug-free life.

Any reduction in sanctions will send entirely wrong signals, resulting in increased consumption and associated health costs. In addition, unless illegal drugs are to be made legally and widely available, which very few people advocate, reducing sanctions will not reduce drug-related crime. The Dutch have already found that is so.

Apparently unnoticed by Mr Williamson the debate has been taken place; sensible conclusions have been drawn; actions are at last being taken. It is a long-term task to which the new Labour Government seems committed. It should be praised and encouraged to remain so.

Yours truly,
TIM RATHBONE
(Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary Drugs Misuse Group 1987-97),
Church Lane House,
Ripe, Leves, East Sussex,
July 4.

Car emissions

From Mr Lance K. Green

Sir, After hysteria concerning the atmospheric emissions of cars, stringent controls were imposed. These have been very successful, and British urban air quality has been improving since 1990.

Predictions see this improvement continuing until the year 2010 (according to the Government's own Warren Springs Laboratory). As the air is currently almost always within World Health Organisation limits, this is a battle won.

Automobiles now contribute to less than 20 per cent of toxic urban air pollution and much less than 1 per cent of global emissions. Both these

figures are on the way down. More over, asthma is predominantly caused by factors in the home. Its increasing prevalence is probably caused by improved insulation combined with inadequate ventilation. In any case, it is at least as common in rural as in urban areas.

I feel it is high time for the anti-car green movement to stop its campaign of misinformation, and for the willfully ignorant media to cease abetting them. Attitudes must change.

Yours faithfully,
LANCE K. GREEN,
Water's Edge,
20 Haisborough Avenue,
Newport, Monmouthshire,
Lance_K.Green@compuserve.com
July 7.

Fruits of experience

From Mr Jonathan Swan

Sir, The derivation of the expression "pear-shaped" (Mr Simon Eadon's letter, July 7), as I understand, comes from the potter's wheel, where a piece of pottery being turned is liable to collapse, and in one instant change from a sphere or cylinder into a pear-shaped blob.

I first came across the term during my service in the Army in the 1980s. It was generally used to describe events that failed to turn out as expected. My efforts to organise the entertainments committee, for example, often produced evenings that went "pear-shaped".

(At which point the RSM would go ballistic, or even ape.)

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN SWAN,
150 Parkway,
Stratford, E15,
Jonathan-Swan@evaluation.com
July 7.

From Mr Geoffrey Hinton

Sir, Daumier's caricatures of the pyrrhion King Louis Philippe of France as a pear achieved great fame and notoriety in 19th-century Europe. This may provide the origin of the derogatory phrase "going pear-shaped".

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY HINTON,
1 Northmoor Place, Oxford,
July 7.

BA puzzle

From Brigadier A. A. Wilson

Sir, On a recent visit to Germany, British Airways inadvertently left my bags at Heathrow. The emergency pack they gave me contained all one needed for the night, plus three small pots labelled respectively "Relaxing Gel", "Revitalising Gel" and "Rehydration Gel".

There being no instructions as to the use of these unguents it is difficult to know when and in what order to use them, or to which part of the anatomy they should be applied.

With the probability of increasing numbers of passengers finding themselves in similar situations over the next few weeks, perhaps we should be told?

Yours faithfully,
A. A. WILSON,
BFPO 803,
July 8.

Flying colours

From Dr T. Bradshaw

Sir, The British Airways strike (reports, July 9) has a real internal logic. Now passengers will enjoy travelling on airlines run by those other nations and cultures being advertised as the new BA corporate image.

Yours faithfully,
TIM BRADSHAW,
54 St Giles, Oxford,
July 9.

Prince Charles and the Church

From the Archdeacon of York

Sir, Jane Shilling (article, July 8) claims that I have come round to the idea that Camilla Parker Bowles is a "Good Thing". Not so. The Church has rules which both Mrs Parker Bowles and the Prince of Wales have broken.

However, in moral terms, given that there cannot now be an ideal solution, a civil marriage between two people who clearly love each other is preferable to a backstairs liaison, which in modern times could never be hidden as in the days of Edward VII and Mrs Keppel. But I am just as concerned that the Church does not continue (as it appears to be doing at present) in the pretence that Mrs Parker Bowles does not exist if she is never acknowledged. That is hypocrisy.

Yours,
GEORGE AUSTIN,
North Back House,
Main Street, Wetherby, York,
July 8.

From Sir Christopher Cockerell, FRS

Sir, I watched a BBC programme, *The Heart of the Matter*, the subject being a Prince and the human problems around him. It seemed to me that the Church has been left behind and is out of touch with the thinking of the day, which I feel is serious.

It seems that the cornerstone of the Church is still an almost Puritan attitude to sex, which is not how most people view it. Surely the modern cornerstone should be to counter cruelty and selfishness leading to the unhappiness of others. If people get into a tangle, as many of us do, it is the Church's job and our job to understand and help them to obtain happiness, without looking up some out-of-date book of rules which should have been scrapped long ago.

Yours truly,
CHRISTOPHER COCKERELL,
16 Prospect Place,
Hythe, Southampton,
July 8.

From Dr David A. Harris

Sir, Can we please be spared even more reports from friends of the couple that Prince Charles and Mrs Parker Bowles are "entitled to each other. They've had all the hell, why should they not have some pleasure" (report, earlier editions, July 4). No one will deny them that. All they need to do is ride off into the sunset together and not be seen in public again.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID A. HARRIS,
Chestnut Rise,
The Park, Harwell, Oxfordshire,
July 5.

Further to your letters

From Dr Henry Hardy

Sir, In my experience there are two standard results of having letters published in *The Times* (letters, June 26, July 3, 5): begging letters from Third World schoolchildren seeking financial support; long screeds in single-spaced typing from cranks urging the merits of strangely neglected panaceas for the world's ills.

Why it should be thought that those who appear on your letters page should be unusually rich and charitable, or specially susceptible to intellectual junk-mail, I cannot imagine.

Yours etc,
HENRY HARDY,
22 Norham Road, Oxford.

From Mrs Eileen Hocking

Sir, You published a letter of mine in the summer of 1986 about a Volcano kettle in which, lacking dry twigs, we had boiled water for tea with one copy of *The Times*. I received over 50 letters, most asking where such a kettle could be found, but some interesting ones which told me of people's experience with this useful article. I replied to all, typing brief information as to where they would find it, and long replies to those who had taken the trouble to write such interesting letters. It was a very happy time.

Yours etc,
EILEEN HOCKING,
Trewartha, Polwhever,
Constantine, Falmouth, Cornwall.

From Miss Elizabeth Manners

Sir, Adrian Taylor is lucky (letter, June 26); the responses he obtained from readers were worth keeping. Of the five letters I received when I commented on a religious issue in your columns (March 25, 1995), three were blasphemous (two of them roundly abusive and the third, frankly, obscene).

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,
ELIZABETH MANNERS,
49b Alderbert Terrace, SW8,
e.manners@uims.ac.uk

From Mr Richard Need

Sir, My first letter in *The Times*, a one-liner printed in 1971 on Labour disunity over Europe, brought me, by airmail from Bermuda, a fan letter from Sir Terence Rattigan.

Judging by some of the responses I have had to later efforts, I wonder whether I should have quit at my peak.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD NEED,
11 Hemingford Road, Cheam, Surrey,
July 6.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 9: The Queen arrived at Edinburgh Airport and was received by Mr Brian Wilson (Minister of State representing the Secretary of State for Scotland). Her Majesty drove to Mercat Cross, Clackmannanshire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Clackmannanshire (Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Stewart).

Having been received by the Minister of Clackmannanshire Parish Church (the Reverend Douglas Aiken), the Queen walked to the Parish Church and met members of the congregation.

This afternoon Her Majesty was entertained to a luncheon by the Provost of Clackmannanshire Council (Councillor Robert Elder) at Allotment Hall.

The Queen later visited Allotment Tower and was received by the President, National Trust for Scotland (the Earl of Airly KT).

Her Majesty toured and subsequently opened the Tower, escorted by the Earl of Mar and Kellie.

The Queen afterwards visited Cochrane Park, Alva, and was received by the Chief Executive, Argyll and Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and Trossachs Tourist Board (Mr James Fraser) who guided Her Majesty through an exhibition of some of the traditional skills on which the Clackmannanshire economy was built.

The Queen subsequently opened the Golden Wedding Arboretum in the park.

Her Majesty drove to the Palace of Holyroodhouse and, with the Duke of Edinburgh, was received in the Forecourt by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh (Mr Eric Milligan, Rt Hon the Lord Provost) and members of the City of Edinburgh District Council, when the Rt Hon the Lord Provost presented to the Queen the Keys of the City, which Her Majesty returned to him.

A Guard of Honour formed by the 1st Battalion The Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons), under the command of Major Kieron Potts, was mounted in the Forecourt.

Her Majesty was subsequently received by the Deputy Keeper of the Palace of Holyroodhouse (the Lord James Douglas-Hamilton).

The High Constables of the Palace of Holyroodhouse were on duty.

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, today attended Receptions at the Palace of Holyroodhouse for Young People who have achieved the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, Outward Bound Trust, this afternoon attended a Luncheon at Baillie Gifford and Company, Rutland Court, Edinburgh.

The Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, this evening attended Dinner for The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Charter for Business at Edinburgh Castle.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by Lieutenant-Colonel James Stirling of Gordon (Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Viscount Younger of Leckie (formerly Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk) which was held in Gargunnock Parish Church this afternoon.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 9: The Duke of York this afternoon presented the Methuen Challenge Cup and Bages at the Inter-Service Team Shooting Match at Bletchley, Surrey.

His Royal Highness, Patron, this evening attended the Lucan Golfing Society Annual Commemorative Dinner at the Savoy Hotel, London WC2.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 9: The Princess Royal, Honorary Colonel, University of London Officers' Training Corps, today visited an Annual Territorial Army Camp at Otterburn and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Northumberland (the Viscountess KCMG).

Her Royal Highness afterwards visited the Northumbria Army Cadet Force Training Centre, Redesdale, Northumberland.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
July 9: The Prince of Wales, Patron, the Wildlife Trusts, this morning opened the Cladding Farm Nature Reserve, Calke, Malvernshire, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Worcestershire (Lieutenant General Sir Maurice Johnston).

His Royal Highness, Patron, this afternoon visited Lower Woodcock, a nature reserve of Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust at Robinwood Hill Country Park, Gloucester, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire (Mr Henry Elford).

The Prince of Wales later visited Flag Officer Sea Training Headquarters, Plymouth, and received a briefing on Operational Sea Training.

YORK HOUSE
July 9: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, today, this morning received Mr Anthony Hewson (Chairman).

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
July 9: Princess Alexandra, Chancellor, this afternoon presided at a reception for the conferment of Degrees and Honorary Degrees at Lancaster University.

For many visitors the best garden at the Hampton Court Palace Flower Show brings back memories of the story The Railway Children.

Depicting a scene at a railway level crossing in old rural England, the garden created by the Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust, of Hampstead, London, has received the Tudor Rose award. Of special interest to younger visitors and hopefully making them aware of the work of the charity, it features railway banks planted with wild and cottage garden flowers and a working steam engine from the Ffestiniog Railway in North Wales.

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Entitled The Water-Wise garden, it shows effective use of conserving water, including the use of drought-tolerant plants. Unusual materials have been used as sculpture (such as giant sewage pipes inserted vertically in the ground)

and for the hard landscaping, where plastic water pipes collect rainwater for storage in an underground tank and form a raised pool and beds.

The best water garden at the show is a wildlife garden from Countryside Wildflowers, of Somersham, Cambridgeshire and the London Wildlife Trust. It has received a Tudor Rose award. The abundance of wildflowers is intended to encourage all kinds of creatures, from butterflies to birds, particularly to urban gardens. The all-important water spouts out of old washing copper into a sunken pool for aquatic wildlife before being recycled.

The Tudor Rose award for the best exhibit in the floral marquee has been won by Heather and Brian Hiley, of Wallington, Surrey, for a display of tender perennials and grasses. Plants are grouped according to the conditions they require cool and moist and hot and dry. For the latter, the unusual *Pedicularis sanguinea* with deep crimson flowers and silvery green ferny foliage is making its debut.

An exhibit of herbaceous perennials from Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants of Whitchurch, Hampshire, has been judged the most original and innovative floral marquee display. The theme is past present and future planting schemes. The display ranges from an old cottage garden scheme where vegetables mingle with the flowers, through a skilfully arranged display of modern cultivars, to minimal use of architectural plants depicting the future.

The best floral marquee exhibit new to the show is the London Borough of Hackney, which has staged conservatory and tender plants that are grown in its Springfield Park conservatory. The range of large specimen plants include ferns, cordylines, yuccas, tree ferns, agaves, and a handsome Mexican blue fan palm, *Braselia armata*, with silvery blue-green leaves.

The show, in the parkland of Hampton Court Palace, opens to the public today, and closes on Sunday. Opening times are 10am-7.30pm (5.30pm on Sunday). For further information telephone 0171 649 1885. Tickets are available at the gate, or call 0171 957 4000.

Hampton Court Palace Flower Show

Best garden is on the right track

By ALAN TOOGOOD, HORTICULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

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Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a garden party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse at 4.00.

The Duke of Gloucester, Trustee, the British Museum, will open the Arts of Korea Exhibition and attend a dinner at the museum at 6.30.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will present awards and attend a reception given by the Queen's Nursing Institute at St James's Palace at 6.30.

The Prince of Wales will attend a dinner to mark the 50th anniversary of Indian and Pakistani Independence at the Albert Hall at 7.45.

The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment), will open a new garden party at the Royal Scots Club, 29-31 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh at 9.30am; will open the new head office of the Standard Life Assurance Co. at 10.30am; will attend the Indian Army reunion luncheon at Hope House, South Queens-

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Receptions

The Edmund Burke Society. The Speaker was the host at a reception held last night at Speaker's House to commemorate the bicentenary of the death of Edmund Burke. Lord Rennie-Mogg gave a brief address.

Baroness Brigstocke. Baroness Brigstocke, Chairman of the English-Speaking Union, was the host at a tea party held at the House of Lords yesterday for members of the union. Lady Brigstocke and Mrs Valerie Mitchell, ESU Director-General, received the guests.

Community Service Volunteers. Mr David Blumkin, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, was the speaker at a reception held yesterday at Durham Court, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to mark the 35th anniversary of CSV (Community Volunteers). Mr Keith Taylor, Chairman and Chief Executive of Esso UK plc, also spoke.

A message from the Prime Minister was read to guests including Ministers of State, peers, Members of Parliament and other supporters.

Ball. Headfirst. To mark the 50th wedding anniversary of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, Headfirst announce 'The Golden Anniversary Ball', 1947 Style, to be held at the Imperial War Museum on Thursday, November 20, 1997. For details please send an a.s.c. to Headfirst, Wilkinson Street, London SW8 5DB.

Luncheon. American Chamber of Commerce (UK). Mr William M. Daley, American Secretary of Commerce, was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the American Chamber of Commerce (UK) held yesterday at the Hotel Inter-Continental. Sir Brian Gosnell, president, was in the chair.

Retirement. Judge Robert Smyth retired from the Circuit Bench on the Midland and Oxford Circuit on July 7.

University news. Cambridge. Queens' College. To an official Fellowship and College Lectureship in Mechanical Engineering from October 1: Tian Jian Lu. To a By-Fellowship from October 1: Christopher Gagne.

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The Allies landed in Sicily, 1943.

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Memorial service

Sir Frank Hartley. A service for the life of Sir Frank Hartley, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, London University, 1962-76, and Vice-Chancellor 1976-1978, was held yesterday at St George's, Bloomsbury. The Rev Stephen G. Williams, Senior Anglican Chaplain, London University, officiated and Canon Peter Hartley, son, led the prayers.

Miss Alison Hartley and Miss Sue Hartley, granddaughters, read the In Memoriam. Professor Alexander Florence, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, and Professor Frank Hartley, son, gave addresses.

The Rev Jill Caldwell, chaplain to the school, pronounced the blessing. Among other present were:

Miss Frank Hartley and Mrs Peter Hartley (daughters-in-law), Mr Stephen Hartley and Mrs Mrs Bruce Allen (grandchildren) and other members of the family.

Dr J. H. Calkin (British Pharmacology Society), Dr J. H. Calkin (British Pharmac

DAME SYLVIA CROWE

COLONEL GORDON MAXWELL

PERSONAL COLUMN

speaking of himself as the most erring of them all. The lads of the village adored him. He invited them to spend one evening a week with him, when he kept them entranced with his tales of foreign countries, his adventures and escapades of his youth. When he fell ill, still in the full vigour of life though ripe in years, each post brought humble offerings from the poor of his old parish. When the end was near, the doctor gave him morphia that his passing might be painless, and his family kissed him farewell in his sleep. But, almost miraculously, as though he knew their great longing once more to hear his beloved voice, he returned from that dark shore where he was waiting to embark on his last voyage, and very early next morning summoned his children. As they knelt round his bed, with a great effort he took a hand of each, and placing his own upon them, solemnly and clearly blessed them: "Unto God's gracious mercy and protection I commit you. The Lord bless you and keep you."

NEWS

Blair will vote for hunting ban

Tony Blair yesterday put himself on collision course with supporters of fox-hunting by declaring that he would vote for the ban proposed in a Labour backbencher's Bill when it comes before the Commons in the autumn.

Asked about his attitude to Mike Foster's measure, against which up to 100,000 rural workers and hunt supporters will protest in Hyde Park, London, today, the Prime Minister said that he had voted against hunting in the past and he would do so again.

Strike brings chaos to Heathrow

More than 1,500 British Airways cabin staff reported sick yesterday as colleagues staged a 72-hour strike that forced the cancellation of dozens of flights and brought chaos to Heathrow airport.

Tyson loses licence

Mike Tyson's boxing career may have ended after the Nevada State Athletic Commission revoked his boxing licence as punishment for biting Evander Holyfield's ear.

Ulster troops

Hundreds of extra troops are to be flown into Northern Ireland to counter the upsurge in IRA terrorism since the Drumcree Orange parade.

Friends killed

The sole survivor of a sailing tragedy told how he watched helplessly as Force 9 gales swept three of his friends from a yacht in the Solent.

Booth fights for gays

Cherie Booth pleaded the cause of lesbian rights before the European Court, in the process crossing swords with her husband's Government.

£50,000 children

The average child will have cost its parents £50,000 in food, clothing and leisure by the age of 17, says a report commissioned by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and based on living standards of more than 1,200 children and their parents.

Labour peers

Tony Blair is poised to appoint more than 20 new Labour life peers to bolster his party's Lords representation.

Roman medical kit unearthed

The only intact set of medical instruments from the Roman period found in Britain has been unearthed in Colchester. They include scalpels, an iron saw for amputations, hooks for operations such as removing tonsils, tweezers, a spatula and a series of needles of different sizes that were used for cauterising wounds.

Mother's award

A woman who was unaware she was pregnant when she was sterilised made legal history when the High Court awarded her more than £100,000 against a gynaecologist.

Bosnia crackdown

President Clinton gave his backing for the Nato-led peacekeeping force in Bosnia to arrest Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb president.

Bank chief 'insulted'

Wolfgang Schuessel, the Austrian Foreign Minister, must face a no-confidence motion after reports that he described Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank president, as a "real pig".

Kenya in chaos

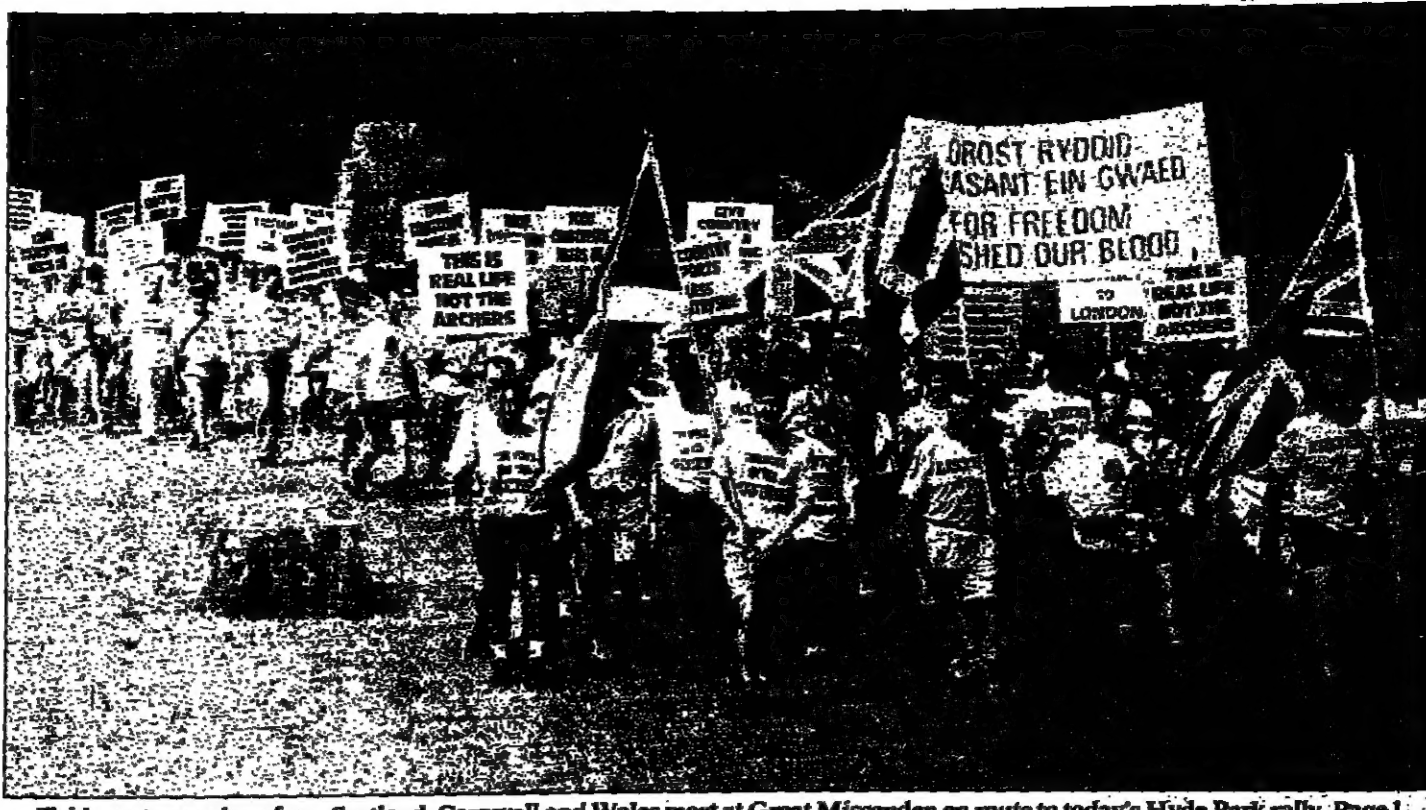
Kenyan police, ordered by President Moi to prevent a threatened march, swarmed through Nairobi University, beating students and dons.

Church scandal

The head of America's biggest black church was at the centre of adultery allegations after his wife was arrested for setting fire to a Florida mansion owned by him and another woman.

Clinton's persuasion

President Clinton persuaded the Democrats to hire John Huang, who is at the heart of the fundraising scandal, a Senate hearing was told.



Field sports marchers from Scotland, Cornwall and Wales meet at Great Missenden en route to today's Hyde Park rally. Page 1

BUSINESS

Property: Chris Howes, chief executive and Second Commissioner of the Crown Estate, warned the property market was in danger of overheating.

Eurotunnel: Two senior assistants to George Soros, the billionaire trader, have been questioned as part of a French police investigation into insider trading in Euro-tunnel shares.

Executive pay: Directors' pay is rising again, according to salary evidence shows.

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 3.9 points, to close at 1042.4. Sterling's index fell from 104.2 to 104.1 after a fall from \$1.6897 to \$1.6853 but a rise from DM2.9693 to DM2.9695.

SPORT

Cricket: Lancashire, the holders, were knocked out of the NatWest Trophy in the second round by Sussex. Surrey also went out to Nottinghamshire.

Golf: Joakim Haeggman, the first Swede to play in the Ryder Cup, was leading the field after the first round of the Loch Lomond World Invitational.

Football: Inter Cable-Tel, the League of Wales runners-up last season, were paired with Celtic in the first qualifying round of the UEFA Cup.

Motor racing: Frank Williams says that only victory in the British Grand Prix will allow Jacques Villeneuve to retain a realistic chance of winning the world championship.

NEW RELEASES

Geoff Brown discovers the charms of the low-budget, high-quality summer comedy *Swingers*, but finds the problems pile up in Spike Lee's latest, *Get on the Bus*.

The Kirov Ballet returns to London for a five-week summer season at the Coliseum, and kicks off with an ebullient *Don Quixote*.

The 1960s film *Summer Holiday* has been reborn as a theatrical experience, and Cliff Richard took his seat at the Laburnum Apollo so that he could witness the transformation.

The British tenor Dennis O'Neill gives a one-man show at Covent Garden that pays tribute to Verdi.

TAKE OF DANGER

Dr Thomas Sturtevant on the dangers of drinking fruit ice, the benefits of taking folic acid before pregnancy, a rare kidney disease, trouble with talcum powder, and why too many hospital patients die from pulmonary embolism.

"I find it difficult to make friends with people who don't make my kind of money," Geoff, a City wheeler-dealer who has wine, women and wads of cash, explains to Bill Frost why even his shrink can't abide him.

Louche Me: Peter Ackroyd on the louche life of Somerset Maugham; Roger Scruton admires Iris Murdoch; philosopher Roy Strong on James Lees-Milne.

Even rivals of British Airways are helping the strike-hit airline.

The heads of state and of government tackled the Madrid summit in widely differing frames of mind. In Washington, it is self-satisfaction which is prevailing. But America's "grand slam" is not making everyone happy. In a number of European capitals, starting with Paris, American hegemony is being bitterly denounced.

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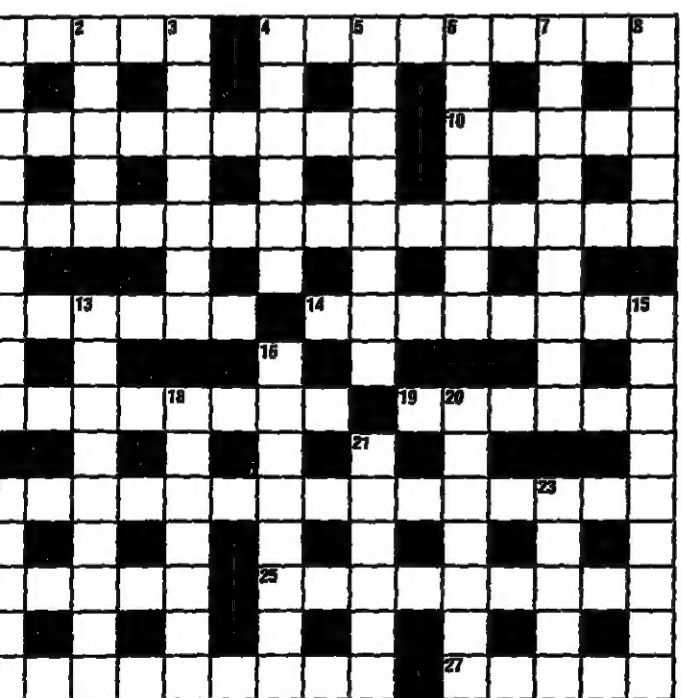
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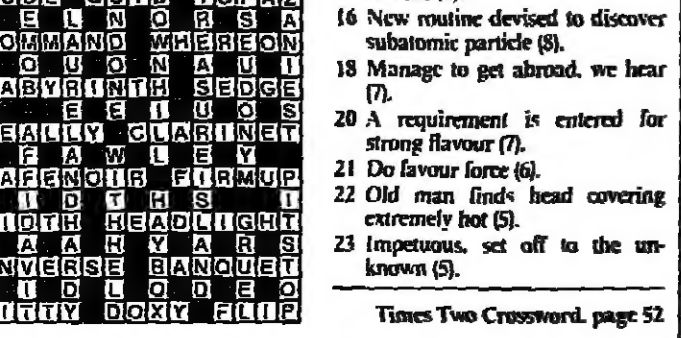
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,528



ACROSS

- 1 Small detached place brings in rent (5).
- 2 Room to bring young lady back - an easy catch (9).
- 3 Foolishly burnt as he laid out (9).
- 10 Deal evasively with composer (5).
- 11 Cluh with no entrance fee? That's not logical talk (4,1,1).
- 12 Heroic nurse struggles hible into part of prison (6).
- 14 Independence UK experienced in 1964? (4,4).
- 17 Short examination about Anglicanism completed (4-1).
- 19 Party emerges from grave upheaval (4-2).
- 22 I blessed the wall, newly-built with good foundations (4-1,1).
- 24 Consumes fowl with last of dressing passed round (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,527



Times Two Crossword, page 52

AA INFORMATION

Latest Road and Weather conditions
UK Weather - All regions 0336 444 910
UK Roads - All regions 0336 401 410
Inland 0336 401 744
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